

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LV.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 12TH APRIL, 1902.

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BIRTHS.

On the 27th March, at Singapore, the wife of Capt. B. MORIER, of a son.
On the 28th March, at 2, Makalee Terrace, Shanghai, the wife of W. BATES, of a son.
On the 9th April, at "Irvington," Conduit Road, the wife of A. W. SCHELLHASS, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 17th February, at the Mairie of the 17th Arrondissement, Paris, and afterwards at the Temple Protestant de l'Etoile, Louis ROCHER, Commissioner, Imperial Maritime Customs, China, to JEANNE MARGUERITE, second daughter of Monsieur le Pasteur GOBY, Blidah, Algeria.

DEATHS.

On the 27th February, at Carlgary, Mull, in his 30th year, DUNCAN, youngest son of JOHN MACNAB.
At sea, between Hongkong and Singapore, MARJORIE, only child of LAWRENCE GIBBS, aged 2 years.
On the 18th March, at Colombo, the wife of S. J. PIERIS, of the Royal Survey Department, Bangkok.
On the 20th March, at the London Mission, Peking, DOROTHY MARY, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. T. HOWARD-SMITH, aged 2 years and 9 months.
On the 30th March, at 39, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, KONRAD, eldest son of E. RUHSTRAT, I. M. Customs, aged 5 years and 4 months.
On the 30th March, at No. 19, North Szechuen Road, Shanghai, IDA PIEROTTI DE MENCARINI, widow of the late DON ALBINO MENCARINI, aged 79 years.
On the 2nd April, at Shanghai, Rev. C. K. MARSHALL (DZAU TZE ZEH).
On the 3rd April, at 10, Tiendong Road, JOSE ALBERTO, second son of IGNACIO L. DA CRUZ, aged 2 years.
On the 7th April, at 11.30 a.m., at the Peak Hospital, B. BYRAMJEE, J.P., aged 56 years.

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HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 7th March arrived, per M. M. steamer *Indus*, on the 7th April (31 days); the American mail of the 13th March arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 11th April (29 days); and the English mail of the 14th March arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, on the 11th April (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

On the 8th inst. the Manchurian Convention was signed at Peking, without objection to any clauses.

L'Echo de Chine has received a cable from Yokohama stating that 4,000 houses have been destroyed by fire at (?) Fukin.

The *Figaro* advocates the maintenance of a Naval Station on the Yangtze and also a French commercial river-steamship service.

The Republicans abandoned opposition in the American Senate to the proposal to continue the Philippine currency on the silver basis.

According to latest advices from Manila, there had been 127 cases of cholera and 105 deaths. The village of Farola Baring, "the filthiest blot on all Manila," has been burned by the authorities.

Hsi Liang, Governor of Honan, is held responsible by the Imperial Government for the recent riots in Peiyang and Tungpeh, which are considered to be due to his misgovernment of the people.

At the Legislative Council meeting on the 10th inst., Professor Simpson's Second Memorandum on plague was submitted; also the report of the Commission on the Public Works Department.

After threatening for two weeks or so, rain made its appearance on the 10th inst., much to the relief of everyone, and doubtless to none more than to the Water authorities. The weather appears to be breaking for the rainy season.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., General Managers for the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd., inform us that an interim dividend of 4 per cent. has been declared, payable on the 17th inst., on the shares of the Company.

The Bishop of Macao, who is on leave in Portugal, has been transferred to Angra, says the *Singapore Free Press*. It is not known who is going to be elected to the Diocese of Macao, which exercises a direct jurisdiction over the Portuguese mission of Singapore and Malacca.

The Russian Ministry of Marine has voted £600,000 to be spent during the present year in the construction and development of harbours in the Far East.

H.F. Major-General Sir W. Gascoigne, Commanding in China and Hongkong, has written to the Volunteer Corps in Shanghai expressing his regret at being unable to hold the inspection of the Corps this year in person, but stating that he has detailed Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. R. H. Bertie, C.B., Commanding the 2nd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, to undertake this duty.

We take the following Imperial Decrees from the *N.C. Daily News*:—(1) Ting Chi (Manchu) is appointed prefect of Foochow, Fukien province. (2) Hs'u Chang (Manchu), Colonel of Forces at Hami, Chinese Turkestan, who on expiration of his term of office has come to Peking for audience, is hereby commanded to return to Hami and there await instructions from the Throne.

At the annual meeting on 3rd April of the Singapore Philharmonic Society, the Chairman (Mr. W. G. St. Clair) stated that he had been told, definitely, that the Royal Welsh Fusiliers were to come there on relief from Hongkong, and their bandmaster, Mr. J. H. Noir, was willing to assist the Society with his skill and experience, in addition to which the regiment had a string band some thirty strong.

On the 3rd inst., at Shanghai, the funeral took place of the late Prince Charles Schwarzenberg, Secretary to the Austro-Hungarian Legation at Tokyo and Lieutenant of Austrian cavalry. Deceased was on a journey from Siam and intended to stop at Shanghai only a few days, but contracted scarlet fever and died in the General Hospital on the 1st inst. The body was escorted by marines from the Austrian cruiser *Maria Theresia*, to the French Cemetery, where the interment took place.

The Manila papers to hand by the last mail contain accounts of the discovery of a widespread treasonable plot among the citizens and government officials of Tayabas. Several hundreds are implicated and will be put on trial. They, it is alleged, have been busy for some time organising secret societies similar to the Katipunan with binding oaths to overthrow the government for which they have been working. These people, with hardly an exception, have taken the oath of allegiance and also the oath of office to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

Referring to the House-tax question in Japan, the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—It may be interesting to state at this juncture that of the Powers interested, the representatives of America, Germany, and France have all advised their nationals to pay the House-tax under protest. But France, Germany, and also, we understand, the Netherlands, joined Great Britain in making a formal protest against the levy of the tax, and thus the British, German, French and Netherlands Governments will all be represented in the arbitration. Sir Claude MacDonald, however, has not advised his nationals to pay under protest, and he is understood to have vigorously supported the contention of the bulk of foreign residents that collection of the tax pending the award in arbitration is quite unjustifiable, as we think most unprejudiced persons will agree.

THE POWER OF KINGS.

(Daily Press, 7th April.)

That kings had ceased to have any thing to say in the governance of the world, and that the order had become not only a sinecure but an expensive luxury, was doubtless the opinion of the majority of Europeans and Americans not many years ago. Even the most out-and-out stickler for privilege will be prepared to acknowledge that the kingly function as represented by the European sovereigns of the early part of the nineteenth century had sunk very low indeed, and that most if not all of the crowned heads then ruling might have been consigned to oblivion, or found the keys turned on them in their own state palaces without the world or its doings being in the slightest degree affected. Monarchs such as GEORGE IV. of England, FREDERICK WILLIAM of Prussia, FERDINAND of Austria, or even LOUIS PHILIPPE of France, always associated in English minds at least with his inevitable umbrella, might one and all have been retired from business and the world would still have waged in its customary manner, and no one except their own personal attendants found the slightest difference. It was little to be wondered at that in each country the reigning sovereign came to be looked at as the last of his craft, and that the European peoples looked on with satisfaction while they saw one crown after another tottering or dragged through the dust. With the commencement of the twentieth century a strange change has come over the scene, and we find the sovereigns or nominal chiefs of each state, from being absolutely nonentities, rising to be real powers in their respective countries. One king in the case of France has been succeeded by a republic, but otherwise, except that there has been a general process of consolidation and formerly separate interests are now amalgamated under one head, there is little change in the roll call of nations, and yet the circumstances as far as the personalities of the nominal rulers are markedly different. Monarchs have ceased to be mere Mayors of their Palaces, and the nominal and actual heads have almost throughout the world coalesced. This of course is most marked in the case of Germany, England, and the United States, where the names of the Kaiser WILLIAM, King EDWARD, and President ROOSEVELT, are uppermost in every transaction connected with the foreign, and to a large extent domestic, affairs of their respective nations. Nor is the rule confined to these nations: we can scarcely think of Austro-Hungary independent of the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH, of France outside of President LOUBET, of Italy beyond King VICTOR EMMANUEL, nor of, say, Denmark or Belgium except through their respective kings. Strangest of all is perhaps the fact that the one monarch in Europe who lays claim to autocracy pure and simple stands isolated as the only sovereign whose thoughts and acts never enter into men's minds, and who is content to be the one *roi faineant*, the Satyr in the grove of Hyperions. The inspiring cause, though sometimes approaching too, is never identical with the Jacobite doctrine of the Divine Right, as it distinctly lays down the principle of the responsibility of the monarch; and it is the faithful manner in which the chief sovereigns of the day have discharged their duties towards their subjects that has undoubtedly led to the recrudescence of kingly power. Even since the beginning of the present year many examples of this will commend themselves

to the ordinary reader of contemporary history. It may be sufficient to mention one or two of these the most remarkable instance is of course the strange position of complete isolation in which the imitation of a real statesman, however questionable his methods, had almost succeeded in placing Germany. BISMARCK was no admirer of England, and took little care to hide his sentiments. But BISMARCK, whatever his private predilections, was careful that his private ideas should not lead to a breach between the two great Teutonic Powers. BISMARCK was, while engineering his triple alliance against the attempted encroachments of France and Russia, not above coming to a private arrangement with Russia herself to partition Austria under certain eventualities; but notwithstanding this apparently glaring breach of trust he contrived to keep the alliance going as a live factor during his term of office. Not so his modern imitator, Count von BULOW, who not only by his practical encouragement of vulgar abuse of England in the Reichstag brought the two nations almost into hostility, but by his malapropos management of his finance measures alienated the United States; and finally to crown all, after almost openly insulting Austria and Hungary in his shameless subserviency to Russia, succeeded in driving Italy into the arms of France. There is no doubt that it is due to the wisdom of the Kaiser himself that the unpleasant consequences of the bungle were with some difficulty adjusted. It is this that renders the news just received that an understanding had been arrived at between the German Chancellor and the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs to renew the old pact of the Triple Alliance the more grateful, and it is thus that the somewhat romantic visit of Prince HENRY of Prussia to attend the launch of his brother's new yacht was conceived. In these undertakings we can apparently see the working of an abler and clearer mind than that of the Chancellor, and the Chancellor's position in the Empire forbids us to see any other hand than that of the Kaiser himself. The part taken by King EDWARD and President ROOSEVELT may not be so distinct, but it is to the credit of both that they readily fell in with the humour of the affair, and have probably averted what at the moment was not unlikely to have led to a permanent estrangement of the three Powers, which for the last few years have been working in unwonted harmony towards the worthy end of promoting a better understanding amongst the nations of the world most interested in the advance of civilisation.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 8th March.)

The telegram from Peking on the 30th March, which appeared in our issue of yesterday, with regard to the situation in Manchuria, so far from bringing any enlightenment only leaves us still more puzzled. The writer of the despatch—the Peking correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*—hears “on most reliable authority” that the Russian claims with regard to Manchuria, as stated in the Convention proposed by Russia, have all been rejected, except the terms of the evacuation, in accordance with which Russia is to withdraw all her troops within eighteen months from the signing of the Convention. This, it is said, the Chinese Government accepts, and it retains in its own hands all the mining, railway, and other rights, and the drilling of its troops—in fact, all its rights as sovereign of the country. This agreement we are told, the Chinese are anxious to get

finally settled, at which we are not surprised; but when we are told in addition that they are “hoping that it will be signed in a few days” we can only conjecture that either the story has no foundation or that the Convention is a bogus one, concealing some totally different compact. Our Shanghai contemporary, in publishing the telegram, says that Russia's sudden withdrawal of her demands and simple promise to evacuate Manchuria next year are regarded with some misgiving in some of the Legations. We cannot imagine in what Legations, except those of Russia and France, such conduct can be regarded otherwise than “with some misgiving.” We have had numerous stories of Russia's renunciation already in the matter of Manchuria, all of which we have taken leave to doubt. In each case the story has turned out to be without foundation in fact and has been followed by renewed demands on China by Russia. It is therefore natural that we should regard the latest report with the same suspicion. Events will prove whether this suspicion is justified or not. In the meantime the newest tale may be characterised as quite the most remarkable. It will be interesting to see whether it is supported from any other sources than the one through which it first appeared.

COLONIES AND MOTHER COUNTRY.

(Daily Press, 9th April.)

A subject which is beginning to attract a great amount of attention, and which may be expected to attract still more as time goes on, is the relation of the Colonies and the Mother Country with regard to the defence of the British Empire. As has been announced, the representatives of the Colonies present at the Coronation ceremonies next June have been invited to consider this question when they meet in London. The feeling has been steadily growing, since the beginning of the South African War, that the obligations of the Colonies to take more part than they have hitherto in the burdens and expenses of Empire cannot be neglected. There is, it will readily be understood, no question of demanding from our colonists the recognition of their duties. They have all shown, by their eager volunteering for service in South Africa, that they already recognise what is owing from them. But it is not what is right in times of great emergency that requires consideration, but the whole question of aiding in the maintenance of the Empire. We may call attention to a sentence from the Army Estimates for 1902-3, appearing in another column, where it is said:—“The contributions from the Colonial Governments of Ceylon, Hongkong, and the Straits are expected to increase, mainly owing to growth of revenue.” It is only to be expected that this Colony, like Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, must be prepared to bear part in the additional burdens but, of course, the Colonies chiefly concerned are Australia, Canada, and South Africa. As a writer in a service journal points out, in every sea we have stationed British squadrons for the protection of commerce, and where the white ensign floats British merchants may carry on their business without danger of spoliation. In these advantages the colonists have fully shared, but their obligation to the Royal Navy does not end there. The costs of the three great Colonies which we have just mentioned are patrolled by our ships of war. The Mediterranean and the route to the East are held open by a splendid squadron, and in this China Sea our fleet has

been of late enormously increased. Furthermore, Britain obtains no men for the squadrons from the Colonies, although the active list is about to be increased to 122,500 officers and men. Imperial defence, naval and military, already costs the Empire about fifty-three millions sterling a year. From a pamphlet recently issued by the Imperial Federation (Defence) League, it appears that of this vast sum the self-governing Colonies contribute only a little more than one million and a half. Thus, it is pointed out, the real burden of the war-tax falls upon some forty millions of persons in the United Kingdom, whilst ten millions of colonists are hardly taxed at all. The English taxpayer pays about £1 5s. 10d. per annum, whilst the colonist pays but 3s. 1d. Moreover, the bulk of the sum contributed by the Colonies is devoted to purely local defences and the maintenance of local troops.

That such a state of affairs was doomed to end there has been no doubt for some time now. The question is what will be the imperial defence system which will arise out of the needs of the situation and the well proved loyalty of the Colonies. Last month, referring to the suggested conference during the Coronation season of Colonial Premiers, the *Evening News* of Portsmouth, a paper whose acquaintance with service matters is generally recognised, foreshadowed the drawing up of a great scheme of imperial defence. According to this, our Portsmouth contemporary claims, Great Britain and Ireland will produce and equip six army corps, three of which, representing a force of 150,000, will be prepared to take the field in defence of the Colonies against any European Power. India is to provide an army corps from each of the three presidencies, and South Africa will raise two army corps, one of which will be available for service anywhere. Australia is expected to provide two, and New Zealand one, while Canada will have four Militia army corps, which could be wholly used if required. How far this scheme resembles that to which the Colonial Premiers, with the assistance of Mr. BRODRICK, will give their attention, it is not possible to say, but it reads like a shrewd forecast. The adoption of such a plan would not solve the question completely, of course. It is one thing to raise an army corps on paper, another to have it ready for service in the field. The promoters must rely on a continuance of the enthusiasm which has inspired the Empire throughout the war and, also, on an increase of the attractiveness of military service.

KRITZINGER'S ACQUITTAL.

(Daily Press, 10th April.)

The news will doubtless be received, on the whole, with feelings of satisfaction that the Boer commandant, KRITZINGER, who was on his trial for his life, has been acquitted. We have no exact details of the counts upon which the prisoner was arraigned in January last immediately after the execution of SCHEEPERS. It was originally stated that there were four charges of murder and indictments for train-wrecking and cruelty to prisoners—all very serious accusations, conviction on two of which, murder and train-wrecking, would justify his execution. However, the verdict, after a postponement of the trial for a further consideration of evidence last month, has been in favour of the accused, who is in future to be treated as an ordinary prisoner of war. As we are not in possession of the facts of the case we must presume from the finding of the Court that the charges against KRITZINGER

were exaggerations—as indeed it cannot be denied that many of those against other Boer leaders have turned out to be. The postponement of the trial, it was directly stated at the time, was due to Commandant DELAREY's chivalrous treatment of the captured Lord MERTHVEN, which was opposed to the wishes of the bulk of his commando. It cannot be supposed, however, that if KRITZINGER had actually been proved a murderer like the traitor SCHEEPERS (elevated naturally by Mr. W. T. STEAD into the position of a heroic patriot) he would have been acquitted for all the courtesy of that distinguished general, DELAREY. It is satisfactory to think that KRITZINGER's character must have been cleared of the worst imputations made against it. It must not be forgotten, nevertheless, that KRITZINGER was, like SCHEEPERS, a Cape rebel. Both made themselves very prominent in the early part of 1901, carrying on a guerilla campaign in Cape Colony with a certain amount of success. It was at this time that the atrocious acts for which SCHEEPERS and a few other afterwards suffered the extreme penalty were committed. At the period undoubtedly KRITZINGER's name was associated by report with the crimes against the laws of civilised warfare, and after his capture it was undoubtedly thought that his chance of escape from death was little. In view of the fact that he was a rebel, taken in arms, this Boer commandant may be considered lucky to have got off. Still, as we started by saying, the feeling, on the whole, will be one of satisfaction that it has not been found necessary to make another example. In spite of the strong feeling against the Colonial rebels, the sentiment is still stronger against shooting in cold blood men who have lately been fighting against our troops, unless their offences against humanity are of the grossest kind. The British public is the very reverse of what the Continental Anglophobes delight in representing it to be, and no people is more averse to unnecessary bloodshed or severity of the justification of which there is any doubt.

THE REBELLION RUMOURS.

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

Much has been written of late concerning the rebellion which is supposed to be raging in the Two Kwang, and the information supplied is apparently based on native gossip that filters down from the interior to the correspondents at the Treaty ports. The actual information to hand is sparse and does not impress one as being very accurate. One day we hear of towns besieged and captured by small armies of rebels; the next brings news from as equally questionable sources that the interior is quiet and sedition finds no outlet in the presence of strong patrols of Imperial troops. It is quite possible that some of the graphic rebellion narratives are circulated for a purpose on the part of those who, posing as Reformers, have a political object in view. Other information may even be invented by correspondents from purely personal motives, and we have a recent case in point. Two weeks ago considerable surprise was caused in Tonkin by the receipt of a telegram from Paris to the effect that news had been wired from Hongkong to London stating that Marshal Sou had joined the Kwangsi rebels with 20,000 men. Without hesitation the French attributed this mischievous and incorrect report to British political motives. At that time, as the French well knew, Marshal Sou was at Lungchow with his command, which is limited to 10,000 men.

It can serve no good political or commercial purpose for any correspondent to abuse his privilege by telegraphing wild rumours. As a matter of fact the so-called rebellion is probably nothing more than a few piratical bands, their numbers increased through local causes, making predatory raids which the Imperial troops are usually content to ignore unless disturbed by exceptional deeds of violence.

FRANCE ON THE YANGTSE.

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

Whilst the British are endeavouring to philanthropically assist the Chinese Government to meet its punishment at the expense of the British merchant, the French are again considering the advancement of their territorial interests in China. The leading Paris paper, the *Figaro*, suggests that the French should have a naval station on the Yangtze; a very modest suggestion and one typical of the humour which prevails in MAX O'RELL's established literary efforts. It may have been ventured as a "feeler" in opposition to the Anglo-Japanese Agreement. Considering that at present no power, not even Great Britain, who relinquished the Chusans, has a naval station on the Yangtze, though she has more commercial interests there to protect than the other Powers put together, the *Figaro's* suggestion is novel and entertaining. It is especially so considering that the French acceptance of the share of the indemnity is scarcely cold. But friend MAX was ever thus.

After threatening for two weeks or so, rain made its appearance yesterday, much to the relief of everyone, and doubtless to none more than to the Water authorities. The weather appears to be breaking for the rainy season.

MANCHURIAN CONVENTION SIGNED.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 9th April, 6 2 p.m.

The Manchurian Convention was signed at Peking yesterday without objection to any clauses.

NEWSPAPER EDITORS ARRESTED IN MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MANILA, 10th April, 6.6 p.m.

Three editors of the *Freedom* have been arrested for a seditious attack on the Civil Government and two editors of the *Volcano* arrested for libel: each liberated on \$2,000 bond. The Press Club condemns the application of the laws here and cabled President Roosevelt urging constitutional interference. The Commission regards the editors as sensationalists, defeating civil progress, and prepares for their vigorous prosecution.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The sixth plague case of the year was reported during the 24 hours ending at noon, on the 7th inst. the victim, a Chinaman at 19, Lung Hong Street, succumbing to the disease.

Last week's figures of communicable diseases were:—Plague, 2 cases, 2 deaths (Chinese); cholera, 34 Chinese cases (21 in Victoria, 13 from s.s. *Hong Moh* in the Harbour), 29 deaths; diphtheria, one Portuguese case; enteric fever, 2 Japanese cases; small-pox, 6 Chinese cases (one in the Harbour), 6 deaths.

Two Chinese who were arrested here recently for piracy committed within the jurisdiction of China were taken to Canton on the 4th inst. in a Chinese gunboat for execution.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 10th inst. in the Council Chamber.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. A. G. WISE, K.C. (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Public Works Commission, the Report of the Committee on Education, a Memorandum on Plague Prevention by Professor Simpson and a Report thereon by Mr. O. Chadwick, and papers regarding the new Post Office.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 10, 11, and 12), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was adopted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY submitted the report of the Finance Committee (No. 3), and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE NEW POST OFFICE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, with reference to the resolution standing in my name in the orders of the day, it is unnecessary for me to enter into any detail concerning this matter. The papers regarding the new Post Office which have just been laid on the table were circulated amongst the members of Council and also furnished to the Press, so that those interested in the matter might have full opportunity of reading them and of knowing all the reasons which have induced the Government to take the step of purchasing the site in front of the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. The want of a thoroughly up-to-date Post Office is a very real one, and has been recognised by the community in general for some time. Everybody who pays a visit to the present Post Office will at once realise that the want is a pressing one, and the steps now being taken with a view to supply that pressing want are steps which will facilitate this matter considerably, because it will be possible now to take immediate steps with a view to acquiring the new Post Office, whereas under all previous arrangements unavoidable delay would have been necessary. It has been estimated that the new Law Courts would not be ready at least until 1905, so that it would not be possible to make a commencement with the new Post Office until the new Law Courts had been erected and the Supreme Court removed from its present site. For these reasons I feel sure the action of the Government will be approved by this Council. As to the site which has been chosen for the new Post Office, I do not think it requires any remarks from me; I think everybody will recognise that it is an ideal site for a Post Office. With these few remarks I beg to move that this Council approve of the expenditure of the sum of \$568,280 for the purchase of Marine Lots 99 and 100.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Before your Excellency proceeds with the adoption of this resolution, I desire to say a few words. The site of the new Post Office has now been under discussion for a very long period of years. The question was referred to a committee appointed by H.E. Sir William Robinson in 1894, and

that committee unanimously recommended that the new Post Office should be erected on the marine frontage. For years, sir, the Government thwarted the efforts and wishes of the elected members of this Council on the question of the site, but I am rejoiced now to find that they have seen the error of their ways and have come to a wise decision now, namely, to put the new Post Office on the marine frontage. In this paper which has been laid on the table to-day, initialed by "M. J. D.," in the first paragraph thereof there is a reference to the resolution passed by the Legislative Council on 28th February, 1898. The memorandum states that "it was unanimously resolved;" that, sir, is not the case. The elected members of the community on this Council both voted against that resolution—the Senior Unofficial Member and myself, and we all along and throughout have been of opinion that the new Post Office should be built on the marine frontage, and I am very glad indeed to find that this is now to be the case, and I trust that the construction of the building will not be further delayed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, I think it is only right I should explain that, so far from this Government having thwarted the views of the Unofficial Members of the Council, as has been suggested by the hon. member opposite, I may say that as the result of discussion by this Council it was decided by a majority, including the Unofficial Members, to have the new Post Office erected on the site of the present Supreme Court. I think it only right that there should be an understanding on this matter; because, from what the hon. member opposite has said, it might be thought that the Government had ridden rough-shod over the views of the Unofficial Members. I am glad to learn that the hon. member thinks the Government has come to a satisfactory decision in this matter. With reference to the initials "M. J. D.," these are the initials of Mr. M. J. Drayson, the chief clerk recently appointed to the Colonial Secretary's office.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Sir, I wished—

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The hon. member is not in order.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I wished to point out that the paper is incorrect as it stands.

The resolution was then put to the Council and carried unanimously.

THE BUILDING ORDINANCE OF 1902.

H.E. THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT—Gentlemen, that is all the business to-day, but I should like that you will allow me to detain you with a very few words respecting the Building Ordinance, 1902, brought forward the other day—about a month ago. This Ordinance was brought forward perhaps hastily before you at that time for the reason that the then Attorney-General, now Chief Justice, had given an enormous amount of time and labour to the preparation of the bill. He was thoroughly fagged out, and the bill was brought forward in order that any matters requiring explanation might be explained while he was still in office, as he understood them better than anybody else. However, after the bill was brought forward, it reached me that a number of interests were largely affected by it, and I thought it was only right and reasonable that they should have time to consider the bill in all its bearings, and therefore I agreed to the postponement of the bill for a month. (Applause.) The month had practically elapsed, and the bill was ready to be brought forward once more, when it reached me again that there were a number of people who fancied that the bill as it was laid before you was not final altogether, that it would have to be altered, and that, if passed in its present form, shortly afterwards some other measure would have to be passed bringing forth greater reforms. I felt that this was most objectionable, for many reasons, and I therefore assembled the two high experts fortunately present in the Colony, Professor Simpson and Mr. Chadwick, who had taken a great part in the drafting of the bill. I brought them before the Executive Council, and I asked them the point-blank question whether the bill as laid before you embraced everything they wished to call attention to, and the answer came that it did not embrace all the things they wanted to bring

forth—in fact, that in its present form it was not final. The Executive Council unanimously agreed therefore to postpone action until the measure suggested by these two high experts should be absolutely final. (Applause.) We are all agreed, I think, that a measure of reform is required, but I was very anxious that everybody whose interests were affected should not only have every possible reasonable opportunity to look into the matter, but also that the bill as laid before you should have that reasonable prospect of finality that such a bill should be expected to have, and I can promise you that when it is laid before you the bill will have that finality, and we can then discuss the measure and pass it on its merits. (Applause.)

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

MOUNTAIN LODGE GROUNDS.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, I have three votes to bring before the Committee, in the first of which the Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$1,586.20, being a sum equal to the unexpended portion of the vote for 1901 for laying out Mountain Lodge grounds. A vote was taken last year for laying out these grounds, but part of the money voted was not expended. The vote now brought forward is for the unexpended portion of the sum.

The vote was agreed to.

PRIVATE LETTER BOXES.

The CHAIRMAN—In the next vote the Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$1,400, being a sum equal to the unexpended vote for 1901 for the construction of locked private letter boxes for the use of the General Post Office. The same remarks apply to this vote, which is the unexpended vote for 1901. This is to practically re-vote that sum.

The vote was agreed to.

RENT OF "THE CLIFFS."

The CHAIRMAN—In the last vote the Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$433.32 to meet the cost of the rent of "The Cliffs" for the two first months of the current year. "The Cliffs," as you are aware, was the residence rented for the use of H.E. the Governor, and this vote is necessary to cover the expenditure for the first two months of this year. I may mention that the Government has ceased to be the tenant of "The Cliffs" now, in view of the almost complete state of H.E. the Governor's residence, Mountain Lodge, near the flag-staff.

The vote was agreed to.

This was all the business.

THE NEW POST OFFICE.

The following correspondence is sent to us by the Government for publication:—

On this date [18th March, 1898] and referring to previous correspondence, the Governor reported to the Secretary of State (No. 78) the Legislative Council's unanimous resolution of 28th February, that the new Law Courts and accessory offices should be erected on reclamation plot 2 in front of the City Hall and that the site of present General Post Office and Supreme Court be reserved for erection of a new General Post Office which should also afford accommodation for such other Government Offices as might be decided on. The Governor proposed:—

- (a) Preparation of designs for the new Law Courts and accessory offices by the Consulting Architects, and on their receipt to prepare estimates locally and invite tenders; and
- (b) That plans for the new G.P.O. be prepared locally.

He proceeded to refer to D. P. W.'s (Mr. Ormsby's) preliminary views as to which officers could be accommodated with the G.P.O. He stated that an estimate for a three-storied building on the present G.P.O. and Supreme Court site was put at \$130,000. The Governor then went into the question of the Colony's

ability to meet the expenditure involved and hoped that the Secretary of State would be satisfied on that head and approve of the proposals. A report of the proceedings in Legislative Council and report by the Director of Public Works, also papers on the financial side of the question, were enclosed.

On 22nd July, 1898, the Secretary of State, in reply to the Governor's despatch No. 78 of 8th March, 1898 approved of the preparation of plans locally for the new Post Office and other offices, but asked for further information as to the financial ability of the Colony to meet the expenditure involved in view of the effect on the revenue from Land Sales of the decision to limit the term of Crown leases.

The Governor reported to the Secretary of State as regards the financial question that he did not think the revenue from land sales would be seriously affected.

On the discussion of the plans of the new Supreme Court, Mr. May suggested putting the G. P. O. on the ground floor and Supreme Court above, thereby releasing the valuable site of the present G. P. O., but the Director of Public Works advanced objections, and the Governor decided not to re-open the matter.

On 23rd November, the Director of Public Works submitted a proposal that the Government should exchange the site of the present G. P. O., etc., with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., for a site occupied by their offices in front of the present building at the corner of Des Vaux Road and Pedder's Street, and the Government welcomed the suggestion as providing a solution of this troublesome matter, but the negotiations fell through, and it remained, therefore, to face the question of re-erecting the G. P. O. on its present site, which involved the necessity of finding temporary accommodation.

The Executive Council advised the erection of a three-storied building on the present site of the G. P. O. and Law Courts to accommodate a new G. P. O., Treasury, Local Auditor's Office, Registrar-General's Office, Education Department, and Sanitary Board Office, and that competitive designs be invited locally. Thereupon the Director of Public Works formulated particulars and conditions and suggested raising the estimate to \$175,000. The matter, however, remained in abeyance owing to the impossibility of finding temporary accommodation and until the new Supreme Court came to be completed.

In September, 1901, the matter took a fresh start when the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Stewart Lockhart) proposed the reclamation in front of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., on the Praya, as a site. The Director of Public Works was all in favour of this site as being the most convenient possible, near present building, as still central, and near the principal landing place. The new proposal came before Executive Council on 17th October, 1901, and it advised submitting the matter to the Secretary of State. This course was followed on 9th January, 1902, in a despatch No. 9, which reviewed the intricate history of the question, and first came up in 1894, and explained the many advantages of the proposed Praya site over all others, which advantages were held to fully compensate the Government for the additional cost involved. A telegraphic reply was asked for as Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. were only willing to allow the Government the refusal of the offer of the land for two months. It was suggested that Sir H. A. Blake be consulted.

On this date [15th February, 1902] the Secretary of State telegraphed approval, and on the 22nd February, the Officer Administering the Government proposed to take over the land forthwith and to invite competitive designs locally as the staff of the Public Works Department was not sufficient to undertake the work and as delay ought to be avoided.

The Secretary of State replied that this might be done.

The Government by letter formally accepted Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s offer.

Steps are now being taken to settle definitely the exact amount of accommodation required by the various offices to be housed in the building to be erected, and the Director of Public Works is preparing the necessary notices inviting competitive designs.

M. J. D.

4th April, 1902.

Government House.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1902.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that, for some time past, this Government has had under its consideration a new scheme in connection with the proposed new Post Office, and as the scheme has now been fully matured, I have to submit it for your consideration.

2. The proposal which has hitherto been kept in view, but in connection with which no action has been taken, is that the new Post Office should be built on the site of the present Law Courts. The new proposal, which appears to me to have many advantages over the old, is to erect the Post Office on the reclamation in front of the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company. This will necessitate the purchase of an expensive site, but, on the other hand, the Government will have as an asset the valuable site upon which the present Post Office and Land Courts now stand.

3. Before laying before you the details of the new scheme, I will recapitulate the somewhat intricate history of the reports and negotiations which have led to its adoption, and in order to elucidate my remarks, I attach a small plan of the City on which are indicated all the various sites which have been selected or considered suitable for the new Post Office, and which are now abandoned in favour of that which I have mentioned.

4. The matter was first dealt with by the Committee appointed by Sir William Robinson in 1894, which recommended in its report, dated November, 1896, that the Post Office should be erected on a site on the Reclamation. From the Appendix to the report, specifying the conditions of competition subject to which it was proposed to invite designs from Architects, it will be seen that the site, which I have marked "A" on the accompanying plan, was the one selected.

5. Subsequently Messrs. Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, who were appointed Architects for the New Law Courts, selected site "A" as the most suitable for the Courts and recommended that the Post Office should be erected on site "B."

6. This recommendation was referred by His Excellency the Governor to the Public Works Committee, which decided that the existing site, marked "C" on plan, was more central and suitable for purpose than site "B" and would afford the desired accommodation if the area at present occupied by the Courts were added to it.

7. The Committee's proposal, though good in many respects, is open to serious objections, the principal being that excessive delay and inconvenience would be caused in the carrying out of the work.

8. To explain this, I must emphasise the fact that the new Post Office was to embrace the sites of the present Post Office and Supreme Court, and that, at the present time, practically half the ground floor of the Supreme Court is occupied by the Post Office.

9. It will, therefore, be seen that before construction of a new Post Office can be begun on the existing site, both the Courts and the Post Office must be removed.

10. The removal of the former to the building to be erected upon site "A" will not take place before 1905 at the earliest, nor will its removal render possible the commencement of the new Post Office for the reason mentioned in paragraph 8.

11. It follows, therefore, that, in order to admit of the new Post Office being begun within a reasonable period of time, both the Courts and Post Office (including the Treasury) must be removed to temporary premises. The idea of procuring suitable accommodation otherwise than by erecting temporary buildings must be dismissed, because investigations have shown that no suitable buildings are available.

12. Putting aside the inconvenience and expense which would be caused by the erection of temporary buildings, there is the serious risk attached to such a proposal of a fire occurring which might involve irreparable loss.

13. The only other important objection to the proposal is that all mails arrive or are despatched by steamer and consequently the disadvantages of a Post Office which does not front on the Harbour are very great.

14. Having thus dealt with the sites hitherto recommended, I will now turn to the one

(marked "D" on plan) which has recently been put forward.

15. The advantages possessed by this site are undoubtedly great, and it will be observed that its distance from the present Post Office is so inconsiderable that it may be disregarded. They are as follows:—

- (1.) It is on the Harbour Front.
- (2.) It is adjacent to the principal landing place of the City—Blake Pier.
- (3.) It is on the route of the proposed tramways.
- (4.) It is surrounded on three sides by main streets all of which are 75 feet in width.
- (5.) It possesses the further advantages that no interference will be caused with the working of the Office, which can continue to occupy the present building until the new one has been completed.

16. The only disadvantages it possesses are that the land must be purchased from its present owner and that the cost of the foundations will be greater on this site than on the present one.

17. With regard to these disadvantages, I have ascertained from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. that Sir Robert Jardine is prepared to sell the area, which comprises 25,414 square feet, at \$20 per square foot, or at a total cost of \$508,280.

18. As the site of the existing Post Office, Courts, &c., would be rendered available for sale by the transfer to site "D," the Colony would be recompensed for this outlay.

19. After providing for the construction of a public street in order to develop the land, for the purpose of which a certain area of private property must be acquired, there will remain an area of 38,942 square feet for sale, the value of which is estimated at \$629,328. From this must be deducted the cost of resuming the area just mentioned, which is estimated at \$80,000, leaving the net return from the sale of the land \$549,328.

20. With regard to the extra cost of the foundations, this may be taken at about \$60,000, as an offset against which there is the avoidance of the cost of temporary buildings and of the distraction of the work which must inevitably result from attempting to utilise the existing site.

21. It will, therefore, be seen that the advantages of adopting the new site are very great and may be regarded as fully compensating for the additional cost which would be involved in carrying out the proposal.

22. In submitting the above scheme for your consideration, I have the honour to request that you will inform me of your decision in the matter as soon as possible by telegraph, as Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have intimated in the letter, of which I enclose a copy, that they will allow the Government to have the refusal of their offer for only two months and that they desire to be informed as promptly as possible of its acceptance or decline.

23. As Sir Henry Blake is fully acquainted with the details of the scheme, I have the honour to suggest that you should apply to him for any information or explanation you require during his absence in England—I have, &c.,

W. J. GASCOIGNE,
Major General,

Administering the Government.
Right Hon. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., &c.

The flower of the Indian Army is to be represented at the coming Coronation, says the *Englishman*. The contingent that is to be sent home is to number no less than 1,000 of all ranks, and is to be drawn from the finest regiments in the country, care being taken to select types of all the martial races. There can be no doubt that the magnificent force that is to be drawn together will considerably astonish the good people in Europe, and it is no doubt meant to serve as an object lesson to those who believe that all the Imperial army is in South Africa. The Indian Volunteer contingent which is to be sent home is registered to 100, and the men are to be drawn from each corps according to its strength. Thus the Calcutta Port Defence will send two, the Calcutta Light Horse one, and the East Indian Railway Volunteers five.—In the face of all this, it would be interesting to know what Hongkong is really going to do, and when it intends doing it. The Volunteer contingent seems to be as far off formation as ever.

EDUCATION IN THE COLONY.

IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS BY SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

The report of the Committee on Education was submitted on the 10th inst. at the Legislative Council. It is divided into five parts. Part I gives a description of the existing system. Part II deals with the classes of children requiring education and contains the following resolutions:—

CLASSES OF CHILDREN REQUIRING EDUCATION.

14. The Government of Hongkong may reasonably be expected to provide or assist in providing an education for four classes of children:—First.—Children of British parentage resident in the Colony. Second.—Children of Chinese parentage resident in the Colony. Third.—Children of Portuguese extraction resident in the Colony. Fourth.—Children of mixed European and Chinese parentage (Eurasians) resident in the Colony.

15. Further, in Imperial interests it is desirable to offer instruction in the English language and Western knowledge to all young Chinese who are willing to study them, even though they are not residents of the Colony; provided that the instruction can be furnished at a reasonable cost.

Children of British Parentage.

16. It is essential that the children of British parentage be educated by themselves, and not side by side with children of other nationalities or races.

17. There is no public school in the Colony reserved for the children of British parentage alone. It is recommended that steps be taken to remedy this state of affairs.

Children of Chinese Parentage.

18. It should be the policy of the Government to influence the education of Chinese children from their early years, but little can be done whilst the Vernacular Schools remain what they are.

Anglo-Chinese Schools.

19. In the Anglo-Chinese Schools instruction in the English language is of course essential: it is to give this instruction that the schools were founded, and to obtain it that they are attended. It is essential that Western knowledge should be a compulsory subject in every Standard. It is essential that the students should possess on entering a sufficient knowledge of the Chinese written language, which knowledge should be maintained and improved during the school course.

20. The Anglo-Chinese Schools as at present constituted are defective in all three essentials. As regards English, in colloquial, composition, and intelligent reading alike, the results attained are not commensurate with the time devoted to the study. Western knowledge is taught unsystematically, and moreover is not taught at all in the lower Standards. The knowledge of the Chinese written language, insufficient as it is, which the students possess on entering the Anglo-Chinese Schools, is not made use of as it should be to aid them in acquiring English and Western knowledge, nor is any attempt made to train them to utilise it as a medium of expression.

21. The following remedies are suggested:—(a.) English should be taught with a view to its practical use: less attention should be paid to grammatical forms, and more to composition. (b.) Western knowledge should be taught systematically in all Standards, and it should be taught in Chinese until the students have acquired so good an understanding of English as to enable them easily to receive instruction in English. (c.) Before entering these schools students should be required to show that they possess a useful knowledge of the Chinese written language. (d.) Constant translation from English into Chinese and from Chinese into English, both oral and in writing, should be insisted upon. (e.) English masters should know Chinese, both for the purpose of teaching and also to enable them to supervise the work of the Chinese masters.

22. It is further recommended that inducements should be held out to students to prolong their studies in the Anglo-Chinese Schools, and the following expedients are suggested:—(a.) That foundation scholarships be offered giving free education in these schools. (b.) That

certificates should be given by the Government to students passing a Government examination. *Vernacular Schools.*

23. In the Vernacular Schools instruction in the Chinese Written Language is essential. It is essential that Western Knowledge should be a compulsory subject in every Standard.

24. The Vernacular Schools as at present constituted are defective in both essentials. Western Knowledge is arranged to begin in the fourth year of study, but nine-tenths of the scholars leave school after three years or less; consequently to them it is never taught at all. As for the instruction in the Chinese Written Language, it is given too much with the object of memorising the Classics, and too little with the idea of teaching the children to read and write. Explanation of what they read is not given till the fourth year, so that again nine-tenths of the children derive no practical benefit from their study.

25. The following remedies are suggested:—(a.) That Western Knowledge be carefully taught from the lowest class upwards. (b.) That the Chinese Written Language be taught on more practical lines.

26. It is further recommended that inducements be held out to children to prolong their studies in the Vernacular Schools, and the following expedients are suggested:—(a.) To permit the teaching of English as a special subject in the higher Standards. (b.) To offer scholarships from the higher Standards of the Vernacular Schools into the Anglo-Chinese Schools.

Children of Portuguese Extraction.

27. There are two classes of schools in the Colony, both under Roman Catholic management, which provide an education mainly intended for the Portuguese, namely, (a.) those in which English, and (b.) those in which Portuguese is the medium of instruction. The first class includes S. Joseph's, where Portuguese scholars predominate, though there is a tendency to admit too many Chinese: the latter not only fail to get the education best suited to their needs (as described above) but also keep back their European class-mates, by reason of the greater difficulties which a European language and European ideas present to them. Neither should Annamese and Filipinos be allowed to predominate in a school primarily intended for the children of Hongkong.

Portuguese Vernacular Schools.

28. It is unnecessary for the Government to foster the study of the Portuguese language, and it is recommended that the support given to these schools be withdrawn.

Children of Mixed Parentage (Eurasians).

29. The existing English and Anglo-Chinese Schools are sufficient to meet the needs of Eurasians; who can as heretofore choose which class of schools they prefer to attend.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

30. The education of girls in the Colony should follow the lines indicated for boys as a general rule.

Girls of British Parentage.

31. The education of girls of British parentage is as defective as their brothers' and for the same reasons.

Girls of Chinese Parentage.—Anglo-Chinese Girl Schools.

32. There is no present need for the creation of Anglo-Chinese schools for girls. The high school for girls will satisfy any existing demand for a more advanced education in English. It must not be forgotten that the large attendance at Queen's College and the other Anglo-Chinese Boy Schools is due to a desire to acquire English for business purposes. This stimulus is absent in the case of girls.

Vernacular Girl Schools.

33. They should be conducted on the same general lines as the Vernacular Schools for boys. At the same time it is a matter of some delicacy to impose stringent conditions upon the education of girls whose parents regard that education as somewhat of an extravagance, and who might be easily inclined to withdraw their daughters from school. The following passage from a recent report by the Inspector of Schools commends itself to the judgment of the Committee:—"To find themselves amenable to education must be an invaluable lesson to the Chinese girls and a wholesome one to their parents and brothers, so that whether that which they learn is worth learning or not, it is

a distinct advantage that they and their men-folk are alike convinced of their capacity for intellectual exercise. The self-approbation of your male Chinese requires no such stimulus." The time is ripe to put increased pressure on the schoolboys; but in the case of the school-girls it can hardly be said to be so. It is therefore necessary for the time being to make distinctions in the treatment of the two classes of children.

Portuguese and Eurasian Girls.

34. These classes are provided for by the Roman Catholic Convents on the one hand, and the Diocesan school for girls and the Belilios Public School on the other. The last-named is attended by a considerable number of Chinese, but the restriction upon the admission of Chinese, which is recommended in English Boy Schools, is at present unnecessary.

IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING SCHOOLS.

In the Third Part the existing schools are considered in detail in the light of the principles determined in Part II; and where they are found wanting, definite suggestions are made to remedy their shortcomings.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

35-36. It is recommended that Queen's College revert to the purpose for which it was originally intended, and supply an education to Chinese only.

37. As in the other Anglo-Chinese Schools, the knowledge of English acquired at Queen's College does not appear satisfactory, considering the time spent upon it; Western Knowledge seems taught without sufficient regard to the local point of view; and the knowledge of the Chinese Written Language possessed by the scholars is very imperfect.

38. As regards the teaching of the Chinese Written Language the following more detailed recommendations are submitted:—(a.) That an entrance examination be held each term, the test for admission being ability to write an ordinary narrative intelligently, and to read and understand the news column of a Chinese newspaper. (b.) That translation from English into Chinese and vice versa be seriously studied under competent teachers in all the classes.

39. As regards the organisation of the school the following recommendations are submitted:—

(a.) The duties of the staff should be so rearranged, that every division of every class may receive instruction in English from an English master for not less than one and a half hours a day. (b.) The English masters should each be in charge of a class: the divisions of classes should be each under a Chinese master subordinate to the English class master. No class master should be in charge of more than three divisions, and no division should contain more than fifty scholars reckoning by the average attendance. (c.) The salaries of the Chinese staff are inadequate and should be increased. (d.) Pupil teachers should be organised under a practical system. They should receive instruction from a qualified normal master. (e.) Subjects like Algebra, Euclid, the more advanced parts of Arithmetic, Mensuration, and Book-keeping, which are taught more as a mental exercise than for practical purposes, should not be taught to boys who have not attained to a thorough knowledge of English. Western Knowledge on the other hand should be taught from the lowest class upwards. (f.) Promotion from class to class should be slower, more regular, and dependent on no considerations other than the ability of the students promoted.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

40. The Anglo-Chinese district schools which should be conducted generally on the lines prescribed in Part II, may be expected to relieve the overcrowding at Queen's College, as well as to provide a somewhat less advanced education at a lower cost.

41. The Vernacular district schools have for long been treated as if there were no natural connection between them and the Anglo-Chinese schools, even when the two were held under the same roof. In view of this, the following recommendation is made:—Vernacular district schools should be established in connection with Anglo-Chinese district schools, and linked to them; and opportunities should be given by scholarships or otherwise, enabling the more intelligent of the boys after passing through the Vernacular schools to continue

their education in the Anglo-Chinese schools attached.

42. The salaries of the English-teaching Chinese masters are inadequate. They should be made equal to those proposed for the Chinese masters at Queen's College.

43. Boys desirous of entering the Anglo-Chinese Schools from Private Schools must pass the Examination laid down in section 38 A.

44. English masters should be engaged to give instruction in English and Western Knowledge in the Anglo-Chinese schools; it should also be their duty to supervise the work of the Chinese masters.

GRANT SCHOOLS.

45. Assistance under the code is at present refused to Private Schools, i.e., schools where admission is restricted, and to schools which are carried on with a view to private emolument—Adventure Schools. The propriety of aiding schools where the admission is restricted was recognised by the Government, when it consented to establish the British School and to assist the Chinese High School. The ruling against Adventure Schools, such as many of the Vernacular Schools are, has in practice never been enforced, and there appears to be no reason why it should be, so long as they are efficient and meet a real want. It is therefore recommended that Private Schools and Adventure Schools shall not as such be excluded from the benefits of the Code.

46. Grants should be made to three classes of schools:—1. English Schools, giving an education to Europeans and other non-Chinese; 2. Anglo-Chinese Schools. 3. Vernacular Schools.

English Grant Schools.

47. The following suggestions are made for their improvement:—(1.) The proportion of teachers to scholars should not be less than one to forty, reckoning by the average attendance. (2.) The proportion of Chinese scholars to non-Chinese should not exceed ten per cent, reckoning by the average attendance. (3.) The great importance of physical training should be recognised.

48. The maximum Grant obtainable should be \$18 for each scholar, reckoning by the average attendance.

Anglo-Chinese Grant Schools.

49. The services of an English master should be secured for every Anglo-Chinese School in the following manner:—No school should be considered efficient unless instruction is given and supervision exercised by a qualified English master for one and a half hours daily for every fifty boys in average attendance. The English master should speak and read Chinese. The following recommendations are made:—(i.) A limited number of Elementary Anglo-Chinese Schools under Chinese teachers should be assisted by the Government. (ii.) A Grant of \$6 for every scholar in average attendance should be given them. (iii.) No Grant should be given for tuition above the Third Standard. (iv.) There is no need at present of any increase in the amount of money set apart for this class of school; and as soon as the number of English Classes in the Vernacular Schools is sufficient, and the success of that experiment assured, it is recommended that the Government should then consider the advisability of withdrawing the Grant altogether from these Elementary Anglo-Chinese Schools.

50. Besides the English master, Chinese masters should be engaged in not less a proportion than one to every fifty boys in average attendance.

51. Boys desirous of entering these schools from Private Schools must pass the examination laid down in Section 33A.

52. The maximum Grant obtainable should be \$18 for every scholar, reckoning by the average attendance.

Vernacular Grant Schools.

53. The Vernacular Grant Schools for boys are not at all in a satisfactory condition; nor is any very material improvement likely to take place, until more thorough supervision can be placed, until more thorough supervision can be given them by the Managers. It is not, however, proposed to disestablish them; they should be retained as a framework on which to build an improved system. All that can profitably be attempted for the present is to weed out some of the less competent masters.

54. The maximum Grant obtainable should be \$7 for each scholar, reckoning by the average attendance.

Grants in aid of Rent.

55. A Grant equal to two thirds of the rent paid should be made to schools occupying leased premises.

Building Grants.

56. The instability of Grant Schools, especially the Vernacular Schools, arises from their being too often housed in premises leased from month to month. No increase in the Grant in aid of rent will remedy this state of affairs. But Managers have no encouragement to erect permanent school-buildings unless they can feel assured of liberal assistance from the Government. The provisions of the Code governing Building Grants appear to be satisfactory, but the sum now voted for this purpose (\$3,000 for three years) is insufficient.

The Code.

57. It is not the purpose of the Committee to draw up a new Code, but only to indicate what its general character should be. Its principal shortcomings are enumerated in the report. **TO COMPLETE THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.**

58. The present system of education is in want, not of amendment merely, but of enlargement as well. In the Colony the British population has hitherto had no distinct part in the system of education such as its numerical and intrinsic importance entitles it to. There is a very decided demand among the Chinese for a better education than can be obtained at present. A third direction in which the educational system requires extension is among the inhabitants of the New Territory.

BRITISH SCHOOLS.

59-60. One school should be established in Victoria and one at Kowloon.

61. A boarding-house should if possible be established in connection with the Victoria British School.

62. All boys of sufficient age should be required to join a Cadet Corps, if the Military Authorities can arrange to form one.

A HIGH SCHOOL FOR CHINESE.

64. The school should be open to all Chinese of respectable antecedents and connections.

65. The fees should be fixed on a high scale.

THE NEW TERRITORY.

To commence with, it will suffice to open Anglo-Chinese Schools at Uen Long and Sheung Shui, and to attach Vernacular Schools to them.

Female Education.

69. The time has not come for assisting female education in the New Territory.

FINANCE.

70-89. It is certain that the inauguration of a number of new schools and the extension of others will necessitate some increase in the cost of working the Department. No estimate of this increase, which will not be large, is attempted.

The total increases recommended are thus:—Queen's College, \$9,207; District Schools, \$6,760; Grant Schools (English and Anglo-Chinese), \$6,485; Grant Schools (Vernacular), \$2,000; British Schools, \$1,700; Chinese High School, \$1,700; New Territory, \$3,000; Total, \$34,912.

MISCELLANEOUS RECOMMENDATIONS.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

93. There should be no attempt to provide any sort of University Education, until a far firmer grounding for it can be found than now exists in the schools of Hongkong.

Generally speaking, the Committee view with disfavour the idea of selecting one or two promising students, and giving them a free Professional or University Education in England, as has been done in past years.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.

94. There is a very general idea that the main desideratum of Education in Hongkong is a Normal School. While it is fully recognised that the qualifications of the present teachers leave much to be desired, financial difficulties in the way of such a school appear very great, and no practical scheme has yet been suggested. As far as the Chinese teachers of English are concerned, the system recommended in sections 39, 44, and 49, ensures that they shall teach under the control of an English master, and it is hard to see what more they could gain from a Normal School. At the same time it is recognised that Chinese masters should be

encouraged to keep up and extend their knowledge of English, as otherwise the teaching in the Junior Classes especially will be apt to deteriorate. This tendency should be met by making promotion in the Teaching Staff of the Government Schools, and the maximum Grant in Grant Schools, depend upon the masters passing regular qualifying examinations.

95. It is still less easy to see how the Normal School proposal would effect any radical improvement in the masters of the Vernacular Schools. If Chinese who have spent a number of years in Anglo-Chinese Schools are still not competent to teach English or Western Knowledge without European supervision the present teachers of Chinese in Vernacular Schools would be even less qualified to teach Western Knowledge or their Written Language in a practical way, notwithstanding that they had spent one or two years in a Normal School. But it is certain that after such a course of study they would demand an increase in their emoluments. This increase would eventually fall on the Government, as well as the cost of the Normal School; but the Committee do not recommend any more money to be spent on Vernacular Schools unless real efficiency can be assured.

ORGANISATION.

96. Under the existing arrangement the Education Department is organised under two distinct heads. Queen's College, by far the most important school in the Colony, is under its Headmaster; the Inspector of Schools is responsible for the other scholastic establishments.

This arrangement, obviously an unsatisfactory one, should be abandoned when occasion offers.

CONCLUSION.

97. It is desirable to state briefly the principles which were accepted by the Committee as those which should govern the distribution of the expenditure upon education. The Portuguese community present no difficulty; the education is already provided for by the Roman Catholic Corporations, and all that remains to be done is to increase the Government share of the cost. The education of the children of British parents has been provided for on grounds which are justified by the interest of the Empire and of the Colony alike. The only difficult problem is met when the education of the Chinese in the Colony is considered. To what extent is that education a duty incumbent upon the Government? Beyond that point, how far is it expedient in the interests of the Colony or the Empire? Should the funds available be so handled as to give the greatest number a limited course of instruction; or would they be expended to greater advantage in thoroughly educating a smaller number?

The Hongkong Government has never pretended to supply education to all the children within its jurisdiction, never having asked the ratepayers for the very large sum which would be needed, were it so largely to increase its responsibilities. It is equally unnecessary and undesirable that such an extended provision should be made. A very large number of the Chinese resident in Hongkong prefer to send their children to be educated in their own country: they do not pretend to be citizens, or anything more than strangers in the land; yet it would be impossible to discriminate so as to avoid taxing them for an education which they would never take advantage of. Moreover it would be necessary under the conditions contemplated to put narrow limits upon the courses of study. To suggest, for instance, that taxation should be extended in order to pay for a ten years' course for every child in the Colony is a *reductio ad absurdum*.

Thus, the argument that provision should be made for the entire population leads naturally to the conclusions, *firstly*, that taxation should be largely increased in order to provide a smattering for the children of persons who neither ask for it nor desire it; and, *secondly*, that no attempt should be made to provide a thorough education. The committee hold that what education is given should be thorough, and that better results will be obtained by assisting to enlighten the ignorance of the upper classes of Chinese than by attempting to force new ideas on the mass of the people. Civilised ideas among the leaders of thought are the best and

perhaps only means at present available of permeating the general ignorance: for this reason much more attention has been paid to the Anglo-Chinese Schools than to the Vernacular. At the same time the principle has been adopted that the cost of a good education should be borne by the recipients so far as they can possibly afford it. The taxpayer who reaps the benefit of every advance in the intelligence of the Community may fairly be called upon to supply the balance.

RULES FOR THE KOWLOON BRITISH SCHOOL.

The following rules, which are of a tentative nature only, and will be varied as occasion arises, appear in the *Government Gazette* over the signature of Mr. Edward A. Irving, Inspector of Schools:—

I.—Admission to the School will be limited to children of European parentage of both sexes.

II.—Application for the admission of their children must be made by parents in writing to the Inspector of Schools not less than one month before the desired date of admission.

III.—The Inspector of Schools in deciding individual cases will be guided by the space available in the School, and by any other relevant circumstances.

IV.—Fees will be paid monthly and on the following scale:—

	Upper School.	Lower School.
For the first child in attendance of one family	\$5	\$3
For the second of two or more children of the same family in attendance together	\$4	\$2
For the third of three or more children of the same family in attendance together	\$3	\$2
Fourth or subsequent will be paid for as if they were third children.		

V.—In the case of a child joining in the middle of a term, fees will be charged from the beginning of the term.

VI.—In the case of a child leaving in the middle of a term, fees will be charged up to the end of the month in which the child leaves.

VII.—If a child is absent for one or more months in the middle of a term and returns during the same term, fees will be charged for the months during which the child is absent.

VIII.—Fees are payable in advance.

SHANGHAI RACE MEETING.

Mr. W. F. Wingrove, Secretary of the Shanghai Race Club, sends us the following notice of alteration of programme in the forthcoming meeting at Shanghai:—

At the request of the donor, the conditions of the "Shanghai Gold Challenge Cup" have been altered, and now read as follows:

8.—The Shanghai Gold Challenge Cup. One mile and a quarter. Presented. Value, 500 guineas. For China ponies, being *bond fide* griffins at date of entry. To be won two times in all by ponies the *bond fide* property of the same owner or owners. Entrance, £10. 70 per cent. to the first pony, 20 per cent. to the second pony, and 10 per cent. to the third pony, until the Cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent. and the third pony, 25 per cent. of the entrance fees. Weight for inches as per scale.

THE DALLAS COMPANY.

Although the variety concert on the 5th inst. was quite as good as many we have seen in the Theatre Royal, the Dallas Company appears to better advantage and is unquestionably more at home in the drama. However versatile a company may be—and that this Company is versatile no one, we think, will gainsay—any departure from its own particular realm is not always warranted by results. Whilst the ladies in their respective turns placed themselves beyond the ordinary criticism of an audience, there was on the part of some members of the opposite sex a certain lack of vocal ability that would not have been so noticeable in any of the numerous pieces of the Company's repertory. Miss Cissy Fitzgerald, whose captivating personality has made her

a favourite in Hongkong, received an enthusiastic welcome and appropriate tokens of esteem in the shape of half-a-dozen large bouquets. Mr. Henry Dallas made a capital appearance in his "Chinese Soja Man," and Mr. Percival Knight, whose name figured but once on the programme, and that at the very end, was as amusing as he knows how to be when he faces an audience. Miss Eva Carlotta, who danced and also gave a club swinging exhibition, and Mr. J. H. Shroot, who appeared in a tramp bicycle act, imparted a variety to the programme as pleasing as it was successful. It is unnecessary to add that Miss Nellie Curtis and Miss Eva Clark attained prominence by their singing, and that Miss Marie Arnold, Miss Isabel Vernon, and Miss Bertha Hunter also occupied high places in the estimation of the audience, these successes being shared by Miss Daisy Albert, who is a clever serio and dancer.

After witnessing the reproduction of *A Message from Mars*—a very interesting play—on the 7th inst., one is tempted to think that Mr. Henry Dallas has kept some of his best wine to the last. Certainly on the 7th inst. his company eclipsed themselves, as far as their stay in Hongkong is concerned. It is a pity that only one night had been reserved for *A Message from Mars*. To speak of individual parts and performances is an unthankful and not easy task when all are good, but we do not think we are far from wrong when we say that Mr. Dallas as Horace Parker fell very little short of the Horace Parker of Mr. Charles Hawtrey at the Avenue Theatre, London. Then worthy of special mention are Mrs. Dallas as Minnie, Miss Vernon as Horace's Aunt, and Mr. Carlton as Mr. Dicey. The difficult part of the Messenger from Mars was assigned to Mr. Knight, who carried out his arduous task to the satisfaction of those present.

H.K.F.C. ANNUAL DINNER.

The eighth annual dinner of the Hongkong Football Club was held on Saturday, the 5th inst. at the Hongkong Hotel, and was attended by a record number of the members. The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., President of the Club, occupied the chair. During the evening, for specially useful play in the Association matches, badges were presented to Messrs. Russell, Bonnar, and Von der Pfordten, and in the Rugby matches, caps were presented to Messrs. Sandford, Clarke, Halifax, and Beattie. A presentation by members of the Hongkong Football Club was also made to the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., in recognition of his services to football and as President for the past ten years. A highly enjoyable evening was spent. The following was the programme:—

Toast..... The King.
 Toast..... The Hongkong Football Club.
 Proposed by Lieut.-Col. Bertie, R.W.F.
 Responders:—Mr. A. R. Lowe, Capt., Assoc.
 Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie, Capt., Rugby.
 Song..... Mr. C. H. P. Hay.
 Toast..... Other Football Clubs in Hongkong.
 Proposed by Mr. P. W. Goldring.
 Responders:—Major Gwynne, R.W.F.
 Lieut. Sherbrooke, R.N.
 Presentation of Caps and Badges.
 Song..... Mr. W. G. Worcester.
 Toast..... Our Guests.
 Proposed by the Chairman.
 Responder:—Capt. Percy Scott, R.N.
 Song..... Mr. C. H. P. Hay.
 Song..... Mr. Alex. Marsh.
 Toast..... The Chairman.
 Proposed by Mr. F. Browne, Hon. Sec.
 "God Save the King."

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—Work has begun again on the river-conservancy scheme, and it is to be hoped that it can be carried forward rapidly to completion. Small steamers have already come up to the Bund, but it is complained that the width of the river is not sufficient for vessels to turn round, even were the width of the channel in the shorter curves sufficient for the larger ones to come up the river, which, it is reported, it is not. The difficulties of transit between Tientsin and Taku, and the robbery of freight that is continually going on, make it imperative that this matter be pushed as rapidly as possible.

MR. ALEC MARSH'S FAREWELL CONCERT.

It was an unfortunate thing that, when Mr. Alec Marsh's farewell concert showed every indication of being a thorough success, outside influences in the shape of the start of the rainy season should interfere. The wet weather was undoubtedly responsible for most of the vacant seats in S. Andrew's Hall on the evening of the 10th inst. and, after all, it was not surprising that many were unwilling to brave the elements on such a night. There was nothing wanting, however, in the concert as regards the excellence of the entertainment and certainly no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the audience. Mr. Marsh had the advantage of having the assistance of some of the best talent in the Colony. The first item on the programme was a pianoforte duet by Messrs. Grimble and Ward, who chose as their subject two pieces from Greig's "Peer Gynt" Suite, viz., "Morning" and "Anitra's Dance." The duettists played well together, both in this instance and at a later stage of the programme when they gave Brahms' "Two Hungarian Dances," and earned unstinted approbation. Most interest centred, naturally, in Mr. Marsh's appearances. His first number, Blumenthal's "Life," he sang in a manner that brought out to perfection the excellent quality and range of his voice and unmistakably conveyed the spirit of the composer. In response to an unanimous encore, he gave "My Love is Come." (By the way, an admirer of Mr. Marsh recently stated that the finest thing he had heard him sing was the "Prologue" in *Il Pagliacci* in the old Carl Rosa days.) The "Toreador's Song" he rendered with great power, in fact on the several occasions we have heard him in this song, we do not remember him singing it so well, and with so much spirit; he further showed his versatility by his humorous singing of "The Owl" and "Long Ago in Alcalá"—an encore to the song from *Carmen*—as well as by his appearance with Mrs. Mudie in a duet, "Oh, that we two were May-ing." Mrs. Mudie gave, besides, two solos—Goring Thomas's "A Summer Night" and Marzial's "A Summer Shower," both pretty songs, suited to her eminent vocal powers. The other lady vocalist was Mrs. Lowson, who, with her sweet, full-toned soprano, gave an excellent interpretation of Blumenthal's "Sunshine and Rain." Her encore song, "The Fairy's Lullaby," was also very melodiously given. Mr. C. H. P. Hay was very happy in his rendition of "Love's Proving," his style showing considerable improvement upon that which he evinced when he last sang it at the A.D.C. smoking concert. Mr. G. P. Lammert sang by request "Oh, Moon of my Delight," from Liza Lehmann's *In a Persian Garden*, which he gave with great success at Mr. Ward's last subscription concert: he also contributed Carl Bohm's "My Happiness," and for each piece won hearty plaudits. The latter song suited his robust voice well, and was deserving of a recall. Mr. Marsh was fortunate in securing as an instrumentalist for his concert so accomplished a violinist as Lieut. Dale, R.W.F.: he played in his customary finished style Thomé's "L'Extase" and Schumann's "Schummerlied," ambitious essays, which at his hands got excellent interpretations; both pieces were encored. It remains to be added that Messrs. Grimble and Ward acted as accompanists with much acceptance, a great deal of the success of the vocalists being due to their self-sacrificing efforts.

The reception accorded Mr. Marsh proves how popular he has become and in what high esteem his musicianly abilities are held by concert-goers in this Colony. Not only was this Mr. Marsh's farewell appearance, but also that of Mrs. Lowson, who leaves for Scotland on Saturday.

The general belief at Tientsin is that the representatives of the Powers will have definite instructions in time to make the handing back of the city to China a practical affair sometime in July or August. No Power blocks the way, and it is extremely probable that the rendition will be accompanied with conditions, of which the most important will concern the Haiho navigation and improvement.

EXCITING INCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR.

The police report that about half-past one on the afternoon of the 9th inst., P.C. Cook, who was on harbour duty in a pinnace, observed an overturned sampan near the Canton steamer wharf and some Chinese struggling in the water. On steaming to the spot he saw a European also in the water—Captain Anderson, of the steamer *Haitan*, who had been a passenger by the sampan. All were safely taken on board the pinnace, when it was learned that a young child was missing, and that he was probably underneath the overturned boat. The Chinese engineer of the pinnace pluckily dived into the water, and at the second attempt was successful in bringing the child to the surface. The little one was almost unconscious, but restorative measures soon brought him round, and left him none the worse for his trying experience. A sudden squall is said to have upset the sampan.

PEKING.

Peking, 13th March.
MORE FEASTING.

Last night at the private residence of Na Tung, Vice-President of the Foreign Office, a dinner was given to the representatives of the foreign Powers by Na Tung and Yung Lu. There was nothing unusual in the occasion except the character of the two men who acted as hosts.

THE T. P. G.

The German Minister is now the only Minister holding out against the transfer to the Chinese of the Tientsin Government. Viceroy Yuan Shikai has lost considerable "face" in not having succeeded before this in bringing about this result.

PRINCELY MUNIFICENCE.

Prince Su has given to the Imperial University 200,000 taels. He is a firm believer in the power of widened knowledge.

THE RAGE FOR ECONOMY.

There is much talk of economy, and in fact there is more of it than formerly. One temple, however, the Ta Ko Tien, just outside the North of the Forbidden City, where the Emperor worships, cost in repairs 600,000 taels. In the same way the building of the University will cost three or four times the actual price.

THE AMERICAN CLAIMS

are at last to be examined. The Claims Commissioners are Mr. Bainbridge, Second Secretary of the Legation, and Mr. Ragsdale, Consul at Tientsin.

MISCELLANEOUS.

M. Beau, the French Minister, is expected back in a week or so from his trip to Tonkin and Canton.

Mr. Allardye has reopened his English school with over 100 paying pupils. There would be many more if there were provided accommodation for staying on the school premises.

M. de Gieter has begun also a French class. But the largest number of students of French is found at the North Cathedral.

NATIVE SENTIMENT.

The attitude of the Chinese officials to the Japanese is not as enthusiastically friendly as it was some time ago. The Chinese are beginning to realise that China is not specially complimented by the Anglo-Japanese Alliance for interfering, if their interests are threatened in China. The growing feeling among the Chinese is that they want no outsider's help. Conceit is coming to the front, and with it a renewal of the general anti-foreign feeling. There have been so many reports published as to the real weakness of the foreigners' position in both Tientsin and Peking, that the Chinese now think they ought to have been victorious before and believe they will be the next time.—N.C. Daily News.

A telegram has been received from Vancouver, from Dr. W. A. P. Martin, replying to a telegram from H.E. Chang Chih-tung asking him if he would accept an appointment as President of the College at Wuchang, in which he says he will accept the position, but a letter from him is to be awaited.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 7th April.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

H.M.S. *Alacrity*, with Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, K.C.B., on board, called in here on Friday last and left the following afternoon for Amoy. The Chinese revenue cruiser *Chuentiao* on completion of her extensive port survey left for the North at the beginning of last week.

RAIN BADLY WANTED.

Owing to the protracted absence of rain the reservoirs at Kackchih are getting gradually depleted of their contents. If we do not get a downpour of rain soon enough we may find ourselves in the midst of a water-famine. Early one morning the Chinese let off a quantity of bombs and fire-crackers so as to bring the rain down, but the means adopted unfortunately had not the desired effect. I am informed that the rain, or rather the absence of it, has already been the cause of a clan-fight not so very long ago, the scene of which was no considerable distance from Swatow. It appears that some people of a certain clan purloined a quantity of water from another neighbouring clan, which resulted in the strife mentioned above.

NEW POSTAGE RATES.

According to the Notification No. 36, issued by the Imperial post office on Saturday, the 5th instant, the rates of postage from the 8th April will be 1 cent per ½ oz. on letters to and from places in China; to Hongkong the charge is 4 cents per ½ oz.; to Union countries the rate remains unaltered local letters are charged at the rate of ½ cent per ½ oz. It will be seen that the new postage coming into force on the morrow will be the cheapest existing in any part of the world.

In view of the circular issued by the Hongkong General Post Office some time ago to the effect that letters sent from Treaty ports to Hongkong, otherwise than through the British postal agencies, will have to pay at the rate of 5 cents per ½ oz., it is interesting to know if that injunction still holds good. For in that case, addressees in Hongkong on receipt of letters having only 4 cents per ½ oz. affixed to them, from Treaty ports will be taxed double the deficiency.

PAKHOI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Pakhoi, 6th April.

VISIT OF H.M.S. "ALACRITY."

Since writing you last, deprecating the long absence in this port of foreign men-of-war of other nations but those of France, H.M.S. *Alacrity*, with Vice-Admiral Sir James Bruce on board, paid us a flying visit on the 27th ultimo. She left again on the 29th, for Hoihow and Hongkong.

THE REBELLION.

I hear nothing further but some wild and unreliable rumours about the so-called rebellion in Kwangsi and Kwangtung. I hope that this upheaval of the discontented spirits in the Two Kwang may prove abortive and come to naught in a short time, and that the forces at present at the disposal of Generals Su and Ma may prove strong enough to cope and check any further progress of the rebels, if the present quietude is not the usual calm before a storm.

COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS.

Mr. W. Noyes Moorehouse, Commissioner of Customs, and Mrs. Moorehouse, arrived here on the 29th ultimo. Mr. Moorehouse came to succeed Mr. G. Moule, Acting Commissioner of Customs, who was appointed for this port a short time ago; the former gentleman took over the charge of the Customs yesterday, and the latter, I understand, is appointed to Foochow. There are many who regret the departure of Mr. Moule, who, though scarcely two months here, has during that short period won the hearts and confidence of not a few through his amiable disposition and genial manner. Mr. Moorehouse is not a stranger in this port, having been Commissioner here for several years, and he only left this for a new appointment in the latter part of 1897. Strange as it may appear to be, none of the then Customs foreign staff—indoor and outdoor—remained behind to welcome Mr. Moorehouse back

to his former office. Such is the result of the constant shiftings in the I. M. Customs service. Mr. Moorehouse will doubtless find the present staff a more competent one than the former.

CHINESE DECORATIONS FOR FOREIGNERS.

As already stated in these columns Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai recently memorialised the Throne for the bestowal of decoration upon certain missionaries, etc., who assisted the Chinese authorities in settling the missionary claims arising out of the Boxer disturbances of 1900. We give below a list of the decorations granted by the Throne to the foreigners concerned, whose names appear in Chinese:—To the French Bishop Fan Kuo-liang (Monsgr. Favier), wearing the brevet button of the 2nd grade, with peacock's feather, is given the "T'ou-p'in-ting-tai" or premier button; to the French Assistant Bishop Liu Mouté (P. Jarlin), wearing the brevet button of the 2nd grade, the decoration of a peacock's feather; to Pao Ju-liao, French Bishop (P.) of Paoting, the brevet button of the 3rd grade; to priest in charge of the Roman Catholic Church at Hsienhsien, Chihli province, Ké Kuang-pei, the brevet button of the 4th grade; to Jèn Leisze, French priest in charge of the R. C. Church at Ts'ingyuenhsien, the First Class Star of the Third Division; to the English Missionary of the Anglican Church, Ngo Fang-chih (Norris), the First Class Star of the Third Division; to the Belgian Lin Fu-chên, wearing the brevet button of the 3rd grade with peacock's feather, the brevet button of the 2nd grade; to the English Colonel, Ku-tê, the Third Class Star of the Second Division; to P'o Chih-yi, French officer connected with the Reorganisation Office, the brevet button of the 4th grade and also the decoration of the peacock's feather. At the bottom of the above list was the character meaning "Noted" written with the "Vermilion Pencil" of the Emperor.—N.C. Daily News.

THE TROUBLES IN THE NORTH.

An occasional correspondent sends the following notes to the P. & T. Times:—

The trouble which has modified the movements of the Court is focussed round Choutien. It is practically chronic, and is due to the fact that large bands of men prefer to live by blackmail and violence than by honest husbandry. They carry arms with impunity most of the year, and use them almost daily; but when any large force appears they are as slim as the wildest of South African farmers, and bury their weapons, putting on the guilelessness of the rustic. If a small force is sent out against them, they do not hesitate to make short work of it. The whole neighbourhood indeed is lawless, and unless it is put under some sort of permanent martial-law and a strong Governor there is little hope for its improvement.—A Mongol Prince has for some time been residing in the capital for the simple reason that his home has looted by these canaille; for some months before coming to the city, he maintained a guerilla warfare with them, and during its course lost over one hundred of his retainers. Latterly he has thought of renewing the contest, he has been told by his henchmen that unless he can bring fully five hundred men, it will be of no use. It is curious to think that this country is but two days' good travel out of Tungchow. Kanus Province is in greater anarchy than is generally known or believed. The ruffians that disgraced the name of soldiers under Tung Fahsiang are obeying the orders to disband in the method and in the time that best suit themselves. Of Tung himself different accounts come to hand. One set maintain that he has seized a big town not far from Sining, if it be not that town itself, and is turning out small arms and ammunition in abundance from two arsenals there established. The natives even say that he is now making big ordnance. The Court is said to be cognizant of this, but does not see its way to cope with the situation with the materials at its disposal; it even entertains some hopes of foreign aid. On the other hand commercial men, who are usually well-informed, state that Tung has entered a monastery, that he has shaved his head, and has given up all the ambitions of life.

THE HOUSE-TAX QUESTION IN JAPAN.

According to a Japanese contemporary, the Japanese Government has proposed the following terms as the basis of arbitration in the House-tax difficulty:—

1. That the question at issue shall be referred to one of the Treaty Powers for arbitration.
2. That such decision shall be final, and all the Powers shall agree to abide by it.
3. That the operation of the Japanese law shall not be suspended pending arbitration.

We have reason to believe, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that the statement of the conditions as above is correct, and the last clause explains the delay that has arisen in formally announcing the arbitration. Not unnaturally the representatives of the Powers principally interested find the last condition objectionable under the circumstances, and have refused to agree pending the receipt of instructions from their respective Governments. It is reported that the French Government has accepted the conditions but not Great Britain, Germany, or the Netherlands. In Kobe the decision to permit distraint to take place as a protest is unshaken.

TROUBLES IN HONAN AND KANSU.

A Kaifengfu despatch reports that the rioters who recently massacred a number of Christians at Piyang and Tungpêh, in Honan, have now formed themselves into a regular military organisation and are besieging the cities of Piyang, Taungsiên, and Hsinyê, which from latest accounts are in a critical condition. Piyang is near the Hupeh frontiers and adjoins the Hupeh district city of Tsao-yang-hsien. The people of the latter city, it is stated, have lately also begun to be excited, in consequence of which Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has been appealed to for help by the magistrate of that city. The Christians massacred by the Piyang and Tungpêh desperadoes were Roman Catholics.

Despatches from Lanchow, capital of Kansu, report that the numerous battalions formerly under the ex-General, Tung Fuhsiang, which were recently ordered by Imperial decree to be disbanded, have all joined their old Commander, the Imperial forces being too weak either to disarm or prevent them. Furthermore, it is now known that Tung Fuhsiang has refused to be inveigled into Lanchow, ignoring the "warm" invitations of Sung Fan, Mauchu Viceroy of Shên-Kan, to a grand dinner "which the Empress Dowager had commanded to be bestowed upon him at Lanchow." Affairs in Kansu are therefore considered to be critical, as a rebellion may break out at any moment.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

AZALEAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 7th April.

SIR,—Having derived much pleasure from walking through the hills of this beautiful island, especially on the southern side, and being a great admirer of the local flora, I have noticed during the last few days with great regret the destruction that is going on of the scarlet and purple azaleas. Three or four times lately I have met coolies carrying large bundles of azalea boughs, and in some cases plants uprooted, which are doubtless taken to Wyndham Street for sale. The purple azalea is almost extinct now in the island—indeed, I have found only one plant this year—and the scarlet species is rapidly becoming so. Can nothing be done to prevent this? The destruction appears to be going on mostly in the valley between Tytam and Stanley, or thereabouts. Surely this destruction could be easily stopped by the Botanical and Afforestation Department.—Yours, etc., A. M.

BIGAMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"
Brixton, London, 7th March.

SIR,—With reference to the case of Frederick G. Hanson, formerly of the Royal Engineers, as reported in your issue of January 20th of this year, may I be allowed—having intimately known the prisoner and his wife, Minnie Hanson, for many years—to clear the character of his wife from a cruel, cowardly tissue of falsehoods. His statement as to their habits of life and circumstances are absolutely without foundation, and as the Attorney-General truthfully remarked, Mrs. Hanson seemed from the evidence to be an "extremely respectable woman." I can add that she is thoroughly respected and esteemed by all who know her.—Yours, etc., J. DAVIDSON.

A SMOKE NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 8th April.

SIR,—With reference to my complaints against a smoke nuisance caused by several ill-constructed funnels erected by Ting Hing Co. and Kee Heong Chan, both situated at the foot of S. Francis Street (which you were good enough to publish in your paper of 14th December, 1901) I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to call the kind attention of the Government again, as the evil is daily assuming a more serious and alarming aspect. In section 23, sub-section 9, of the Public Health Ordinance, 1901, which came into force on 25th March last year, it is stated that "any chimney (not being the chimney of a private dwelling-house) sending forth black smoke in such quantity as to be a nuisance" constitutes an offence. I wonder whether the above funnels which have been the subject of so much correspondence and of petitions from the S. Francis community, come within the meaning of this section; and if not, when will the Government enforce the Ordinance referred to by Dr. Clark in the meeting of the Sanitary Board on 11th October, 1900, when he said that "the Government have written home for full particulars as to the means of enforcing sub-section 7 of section 91 of the Imperial Public Health Act of 1875, which deals with smoke nuisance." I am sorry to trouble you, but it is unavoidable as the ghost had come a second time.—Yours, etc., M. FERNANDEZ, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 7th April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN, CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD., AND REDUCED.

An application was made by the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Company, Limited and Reduced, for the sanction of the Court to a reduction of the capital of the Company.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. E. C. Pontifex, solicitor) appeared in support of the petition.

Having heard counsel,

The Chief Justice said—This is an application on behalf of the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Company, Limited, and Reduced, for the sanction of the Court to a reduction of the capital of the Company. The matter came previously before the Acting Chief Justice, and after considering the affidavits and petition, that learned Judge was of opinion that the proposed reduction of the capital would not involve the payment to any shareholder of any paid-up capital, and that the creditors had either consented to the proposed reduction or were fully secured in accordance with Section 13 Ordinance No. 1 of 1877. He therefore ordered that any further particulars to the creditors of the Company should be dispensed with, and adjourned the further consideration of the petition till to-day, to give any creditor or shareholder, who desire to object, an opportunity of doing so, and he directed the necessary and proper advertisements to be

inserted giving notice of the presentation of the petition and of the day fixed for the hearing. These advertisements have been duly inserted in accordance with the order of the Court. Having now heard Counsel in support of the petition, and no one appearing to oppose it, I make an order confirming the reduction of the capital as prayed in the petition, and I approve of the minute as set forth in paragraph 10 of the petition. As regards fixing a day on and after which the Company shall be at liberty to discontinue the addition to its name of the words "and reduced," I fix the date as one week from to-day.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 10th April.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE "PERU" SHOOTING AFFAIR.

At a special sitting of the Criminal Court held yesterday morning, Albert Marshall, late chief steward of the Pacific Mail steamship *Peru*, was indicted for shooting with intent to murder Albert Freeman Pillsbury, master of the steamer, while in Hongkong waters on the 23rd January last. There was another count against him of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The Acting Attorney-General (the Hon. A. G. Wise), instructed by the Crown Solicitor (Mr. F. B. L. Bowley) prosecuted; and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, defended the prisoner, who pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. A. Bryson, Gustav Meyer, R. H. Stephenson, R. Menashib, A. A. H. Milroy, E. E. da Silva, and W. C. Drew.

The Acting Attorney-General asked permission to be allowed to add another count—of common assault—to the indictment, and this was granted by the Chief Justice. Continuing to address the jury, the Acting Attorney-General proceeded to detail the circumstances of the case, observing that on the evidence he would produce he thought they would have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the prisoner was guilty on the first count, in which case the others would not be gone into. Capt. Pillsbury would be called, they would also hear the evidence of a night watchman who heard the prisoner say he was going to kill the captain, and another witness might also be called to bear out that evidence. At the Magistracy the stewardess gave evidence, but she was now unavoidably absent, and he thought that very likely her evidence would be read.

Captain Pillsbury then went into the witness-box and gave his evidence, all of which was published in full in the *Daily Press* when the case came before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade, Captain Pillsbury said that the statement made by him to the Attorney-General during the examination-in-chief, that he had had trouble with the prisoner, but not in connection with the stewardess, should be qualified, as he did have occasion once, at Yokohama, to reprimand the prisoner for misconduct. In answer to another question, he said that he remained in the stewardess's cabin, after the first struggle with the prisoner, for over an hour.

Mr. Slade—What were you doing all that time?—Sitting in the same position that I was shot in.

You said at the Police Court that you remained only twenty minutes?—I thought it was twenty minutes.

The witness had been manifesting an inclination to fence with the questions, and this gave rise to one or two incidents during the cross-examination. Mr. Slade asked if the struggle outside the stewardess's room had been a violent one, and the answer given by the witness was that Marshall offered some resistance.

Mr. Slade—Was it a violent struggle or was it not?—He offered some resistance.

Captain Pillsbury, will you answer my question?

Witness (to his Lordship)—I don't think, sir, this gentleman has any right to speak to me as he is doing.

His Lordship - I think it would be much better if you would answer the question. The fact that he offered some resistance does not necessarily mean that there was a violent struggle.

Witness—Yes, there was a struggle.

Mr. Slade—Was there a violent struggle?—There was certainly a struggle.

Was it a violent struggle?—I had some difficulty in getting him down.

Was it a violent struggle or was it not?—I don't know that you have a right to talk to me in that tone.

Will you please answer my question, Captain Pillsbury?

The witness again appealed to his Lordship, who said that he was certainly being addressed in rather a loud tone, but that that objection would doubtless disappear if he would answer the questions.

Witness—There was a violent struggle.

Mr. Slade—You might have answered the question five minutes ago.

Captain Pillsbury denied most emphatically that it was he who tried to get into the stewardess's cabin, and was prevented by the prisoner.

Mr. Slade—I put it to you that you had addressed your attentions to the stewardess several times during the course of that voyage?—That is not true.

That Marshall, the prisoner, had remonstrated with you for so doing?—That is not true.

That at or near Yokohama, he came up to you as man to man, and not as steward to captain, and that he told you exactly what he thought about you for carrying on with that woman?—That is not true.

Did he not say that he would rather pay the stewardess's fare back by another steamer than see you behaving in the way you were?—No.

The cross-examination of the witness concluded shortly afterwards, and James McDermott, the watchman on the *Peru*, gave evidence similar to that at the Police Court, which also has already been published.

The case was subsequently adjourned until ten o'clock this morning.

CRICKET.

DALLAS CO. v. H.M.S. "ECLIPSE" AND "OCEAN."

The following was the score in the match in the Happy Valley on the 5th inst., the naval team winning by 89 runs on the first innings. Knight took 8 wickets for 60, and Barrett and Raymond four apiece for between 6 and 7 a wicket.

DALLAS'S.	
Mr. Godwin, b Raymond	12
Mr. Carlton, c Fitch, b Barrett	3
Mr. Ingles, b Barrett	1
Mr. Hooper, c Phillips, b Barrett	12
Mr. Otter, b Raymond	4
Mr. Jenkins, c Fitch, b Onslow	6
Mr. Knight, c and b Raymond	4
Mr. Dallas, c Horton, b Raymond	0
Mr. Munro, b Onslow	14
Mr. Gee, b Barrett	5
Mr. Sallad, not out	5
Extras	4

Total.....70

H.M.S. "ECLIPSE" AND "OCEAN."

Lt. Lampen, R.N.R., c Jenkins, b Knight	29
Lt. Gouldsmith, b Knight	28
Lt. Raymond, R.N.H., l.b.w., b Knight	18
Mr. Fitch, c Knight, b Gee	17
Mid. Barrett, b Knight	0
Mid. Phillips, b Knight	1
Mid. Selley, b Knight	4
Mid. Onslow, c Carlton, b Knight	15
Mid. Boyle, run out	7
Mid. Biggs, not out	9
Mid. Horton, b Knight	5
Extras	26

Total.....159

We take the following from the *Foochow Echo* of the 29th ult.:—In a very able speech Mr. J. W. Jamieson addressed the members of the Foochow Chamber of Commerce on Monday last on the subject of the Treaty Revision. —At an auction of race ponies which took place on Tuesday last *Dismay* sold for \$16 and *Chicane* for \$31, *Sans-atout* was bought in. —In the return Hockey Match, H.M.S. *Talbot* v. *Foochow*, there was excellent play on both sides, but the result was a signal victory for the naval team, the scores being, *Talbot* six goals to *Foochow*'s one.

BLAKE CHALLENGE SHIELD.

The second annual competition for this trophy took place on the 5th inst. at the Tai Hang range. The shield is shot for every year by teams of eight men from each unit of the Volunteer Corps; and the name of the Commanding Officer of the winning unit and the names of the winning team are engraved upon the centre shield. After the next annual competition the names will be transferred to the uppermost shield on the left, while the centre shield will be unscrewed and become the property of the Commanding Officer of the unit whose name is borne on it, another shield of the same size engraved with the names of the new winners being substituted, and so on. The ranges and positions are as follows:—200 yards, 400 yards, 500 yards: any position. Competitors use the weapons as issued from the armoury of the H.K.V.C., but private slings are allowed. Carabines allowed 6 points. Seven shots to be fired by each competitor at each range, and one sighting shot. Last year "D" Co. were the winners with a total of 620 points, the Field Battery coming second with 592. On this occasion "B" Co. emerged the victors with a score of 583 plus 48 of a handicap—a grand total of 631, second honours being taken by "D" Co. with a score of 584. A tricky wind and an indifferent light tended to keep down the scores. Appended are the details:—

"B" CO.				
	200	500	600	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Corp. Ormsby	25	28	27	80
Gr. Cameron	27	33	26	86
Gr. Pidgeon	34	20	13	67
Gr. Rogers	24	22	22	68
Sgt. Penning	18	26	19	63
Corp. Cameron	28	29	16	73
Sgt. Vincent	24	23	17	64
Sgt. Marshall	27	26	29	82

Total.....583
Handicap.....48

Grand total.....631

"D" CO.				
	200	500	600	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Lt. Grieve	21	26	26	73
Col.-Sgt. Mackenzie	18	23	25	66
Col.-Sgt. Moorhouse	26	22	13	61
Corp. Andrew	29	26	22	77
Pte. Horley	31	30	26	87
Pte. Ferguson	25	21	10	56
Pte. Scott	27	29	19	75
Pte. Clark	31	28	30	89

Grand total.....584

FIELD BATTERY.

	200	400	500	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Gr. Duncan	29	31	22	81
Gr. Abraham	23	22	13	58
Bom. Baldwin	29	28	27	84
Capt. Macdonald	20	27	24	71
Gr. Donaldson	22	28	18	68
Bom. Lapsley	13	28	30	71
Gr. Alves	21	27	16	64
Corp. Deas	13	17	9	39

Total.....536
Handicap.....48

Grand Total.....584

"A" CO.				
	200	400	500	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Capt. Sanders	23	19	15	57
Gr. Hay	20	19	22	61
Gr. Brown	23	23	22	68
Gr. Grant Smith	15	21	15	51
Gr. Hursthouse	22	22	16	60
Gr. Holmes	25	30	16	71
Sergt. Plummer	27	23	13	63
Gr. B. W. Grey	25	22	22	69

Total.....500
Handicap.....48

Grand Total.....548

"E" CO.				
	200	400	500	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Lt. Mitchell	24	28	25	77
Lt. Graham	29	34	19	82
Sgt. Parkes	28	19	16	63
Corp. Crawford	15	15	24	54
Sap. Aitken	22	17	14	53
Sap. Pullen	25	28	19	72
Sap. Varcoe	24	21	16	61
Sap. Foden	20	24	19	63

Grand total.....523

"C" CO.				
	200	400	500	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Lt. Lammert	31	2	25	85
Sergt. Gloyd	24	21	8	53
Gr. Evans	22	18	8	48
Gr. Everall	15	10	10	35
Bom. Marshall	19	14	11	44
Gr. Corkindale	16	24	16	56
Sergt. Sherwin	21	27	20	68
Corp. Shoolbred	30	28	22	80

Total.....469

Handicap.....48

Grand total.....517

H.K.C.C. TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

We are favoured with the following scores in the Hongkong Cricket Club Lawn Tennis Tournament, so far as the ties have been played off up to the 10th inst.:

CHAMPIONSHIP.

1st Round—

Pontifex beat Beresford-Ash—6-1, 6-4, 6-2.

"A" CLASS SINGLES.

1st Round—

Huskinson (owe 15) beat Carter (scratch)—6-2, 6-1.

Clapham (owe 2/6 15) beat Dickson (scr)—6-4, 12-14, 7-5.

Solfeet scratched to Atkinson.

2nd Round—

Yeats (owe 3/6 15) beat Slade (owe 3/6 15)—6-4, 6-1.

Humphreys (owe 15) beat Lee (scr.)—7-5, 6-4.

Jupp (owe 2/6 15) beat Garret (rec. 4/6 15)—6-2, 6-2.

"B" CLASS SINGLES.

1st Round—

Chater (owes 3/6 15) beat Swan (owe 15.3)—6-4, 10-8.

Lammert (owe 3/6 15) beat Moses (scr.)—6-4, 3-3.

King (rec. 2/6 15) beat Plummer (rec. 2/6 15)—6-3, 6-1.

Waymouth (owe 3/6 15) beat Woodgates (owe 15)—2-6 8-6, 6-1.

2nd Round—

Buttanshaw (owe 15.3) beat Tibbey (owe 15.3)—6-1, 6-3.

Worcester (owe 15.3) beat Judah (owe 3/6 15)—6-3, 6-1.

Gerrard (scr.) beat Brawn (owe 15)—10-8, 7-5.

Gale (owe 15.3) beat Ardron (owe 15.3)—5-7 6-4, 14-12.

DOUBLE HANDICAP.

1st Round—

Brawn and Tanner (scr.) beat Libeaud and Thomson (rec. 4/6 15)—2-6, 6-0, 6-2.

Yeats and Slade (owe 15.3) beat Mancell and King (rec. 4/6 15)—6-1, 6-0.

Humphreys and Jupp (owe 15.3) beat Beresford-Ash and Hayhurst (owe 15.1)—6-2, 6-1.

Gerrard and Worcester (scr.) beat Clapham and Fanshawe (owe 15.1)—0-6, 6-2, 9-7.

Atkinson and Smith (owe 15.3) beat Ward and Waymouth (rec. 2/6 15)—6-3, 6-1.

2nd Round—

Grist and Pontifex (owe 3/2) beat Deacon and Woodgates (owe 3/6 15)—6-3, 6-4.

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS.

1st Round—

Humphreys and Jupp beat Beresford-Ash and Hayhurst—6-4, 6-4.

Clapham and Fanshawe beat Wood and Gale—6-1, 6-3.

Atkinson and Sercombe Smith beat Worcester and Woodgates—6-2, 6-3.

Captain J. McG. Forbes, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been granted leave of absence for ten months from the 1st inst.

The seventh plague case this year was reported on the 9th inst., the sufferer being a Portuguese resident on the ground-floor of 22, Shelley Street (No. 3 Health District).

The work of recovering the cargo of the wrecked *Knight Companion* is now proceeding off Boshu, Japan. Up to the 27th ult. 80,000 bags of American flour were recovered, of which 50,000 bags have arrived at Yokohama.

The German steamer *Emmi Luyken* arrived at Singapore from Hongkong on Friday, the 28th ult., with 1,001 Chinese coolies on board. Two of the coolies died of cholera on the day of the vessel's arrival, and six subsequently died at the quarantine station at S. John's Island. There are nine other cases of cholera on board.

The statement at 31st December, 1901, of the funds of the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York, whose local branch is at 4, Des Voeux Road, shows resources amounting to £7,879,011. The liabilities of the Co. are made up as follows:—Capital, £400,000; surplus, £900,000; undivided profits (after deducting dividend at the rate of 16 per cent. for the year) £51,721; due depositors, £6,249,396; certified cheques outstanding, £290,295; taxes accrued, £7,6 0.

The police report the occurrence of an accident by which a little Chinese boy, eight years of age, was killed. He lived at 17, Gage Street, and his people were of the better class. Being left in the house alone but for a twelve years' old servant girl, the boy had climbed upon a low railing between the sitting-room and the cookhouse, when he lost his balance and fell over into the air-shaft and so to the ground, a distance of 92 feet. The injuries the child sustained were of a terrible nature, but he lived for two hours after his fall. The body was removed to the public mortuary by the police.

Among the passengers on the s.s. *Peru*, which arrived here on the 8th inst. from America, were a number of deported Chinese, who engaged in a fierce hand-to-hand fight with the Customs officials at San Francisco and had to be overpowered before they could be made to go on board ship at that port, so much did they detest being sent back to China. These men were originally sent last spring from the United States to work on the Russian sealing vessel *Bering* in Siberian waters, without necessary Customs permission having been got by the agents. When the *Bering* returned they were refused a landing in San Francisco and their deportation was ordered from Washington. After being cooped up for nearly three months in the Chinese quarters on the Pacific Mail wharf, they were informed that they had to go back on the *Peru*. They refused to go on board and offered resistance to the Customs staff who came to enforce the order. The Chinese had made clubs out of scantlings, the handles being neatly whittled. They were also armed with cans of boiling water and a few paving stones, which had somehow or other been smuggled in to them. After 20 minutes fighting, in which both sides sustained broken heads and bruises, the Chinese had to capitulate.

H. M. S. *Gothath* left for the North at the end of last week and will be away about six months probably, at Weihaiwei and Japanese ports.

H.M. cruiser *Argonaut* arrived on the 5th inst. from Weihaiwei.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In connection with the proposal to erect a monument to Baron von Ketteler at Münster an influential committee has now been appointed, at the head of which is the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein.

The number of plague deaths in India in the second week of March rose to 25,655, the Punjab reporting fifteen thousand, the Bombay Presidency four thousand, the North Western Provinces two thousand, and Bengal twelve hundred.

Major Nerazzini, Consul-General for Italy at Shanghai, has received a telegram from his Legation at Peking denying absolutely that any one has been decapitated or condemned to death for the unimportant matter of the disrespect shown to the ladies of the Legation.

The men-of-war at Amoy on the 3rd inst. were the German and Japanese cruisers *Tiger* and *Chihaya*.

It is announced in Shanghai that the Chinese officials have decided to turn out one-tael coins from the Government mint, acting upon Sir James Macray's suggestion.

A special Singapore Government Gazette notified that the Hon. W. T. Taylor, C.M.G., has taken up his duties as Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements; also that Mr. Taylor has been appointed President of the Education Commission in place of Mr. Kynnersley, and President of the Shipping Commission in place of Mr. Kershaw.

On the 31st March, Boarding Officer de Souza went on board the steamer *Satsuma* (Capt. Chubb) at Singapore to obtain the usual declaration of the master that he had delivered the mails. This was refused with some discourtesy. The result was that Capt. Chubb appeared before Mr. Brockman in answer to a summons issued at the instance of the Post-Master General. He was fined \$20 and costs.

The Singapore branch of the Society of S. Vincent de Paul has published its report for 1901. The receipts from subscriptions and donations, including balance from 1900, reached \$1,453. The outlay was about two dollars under these figures. The outlay has risen considerably owing to part-payment of house rent as relief. Forty families are on the average relieved monthly by the Society.

On the occasion of his departure on holiday for Europe, Mr. W. G. St. Clair, the popular president and conductor of the Singapore Philharmonic Society, was made the recipient of a handsome conductor's baton, of ebony, gold-mounted, by a number of gentlemen who have been intimately associated with him in the work. In an accompanying letter, the subscribers stated that they desired to "express to you our appreciation of and gratitude for the good and unselfish work which, in the interests of music, you have devoted to the furtherance of its cause during a long period of residence in this Colony," together with their wishes for a good voyage and a pleasant time in the Old Country. Mr. H. Laugher performed the presentation ceremony.

On the 2nd inst., says the *Singapore Free Press*, a function which was witnessed with great interest by a large crowd of spectators took place on the Esplanade, when in the presence of the whole of the Singapore Garrison, Lieut. Williams, of the Indian Medical Staff, was presented by Colonel Oakes, Officer Commanding the troops, with the Distinguished Service Order for distinguished service with the China Expeditionary Force last year. Practically the whole of the troops in garrison were present, together with a detachment of bluejackets from H.M.S. *Fearless*, and some members of the Singapore Volunteer Corps. When the whole of the troops were drawn up, Col. Oakes addressed the parade and afterwards pinned the Order on Lieut. Williams, left breast expressing the hope that he might live long to wear it. The service for which His Majesty granted the Order to Lieut. Williams was performed in North China last April.

There was trouble on the Pasig River on the 31st ult. (says the *Manila Times* of the 2nd inst.) which nearly resulted in the destruction of the quarter-master launches *Powerless*, *Memphis*, *Marietta* and the third-class battleship *Suerte*. The *Powerless* came down river under four bells and a jingle with six cascos stringing out behind her. In making the turn at the Q. M. jetty, the string of cascos made things interesting for the water-front gazers, who had not witnessed a genuine smash-up for some time. The captain of the *Powerless* made a hurried calculation as he put the wheel over to bring his boat around. For some reason, those mental faculties were a little out of gear, and when the Schley loop was completed, the *Powerless* had a hole punched in her stern, the *Memphis* lying at her moorings at the dock had a puncture in her bulwarks and awning stanchions broken, while the *Suerte* crept into a pocket of cascos and lorchas at the foot of Calle Principe. As a consequence of this little pleasant amusement, the skipper of the *Powerless* is enjoying a vacation and another man is at the wheel, says our contemporary in conclusion.

According to a note on native affairs in the *N.C. Daily News*, at the conference held on Monday, the 31st ult., between British and Chinese Commissioners—Sheng Kungpao was not present—four topics were discussed. The first was with reference to the export abroad of native rice, which was strenuously opposed by the Chinese Associate Commissioner Lü Hai-nuan. The second referred to the subject of joint partnerships between foreigners and Chinese in commercial undertakings; third, the opening of commercial ports inland, and fourth the demand that in Kwangtung province, seeing that as cargoes carried in foreign bottoms are now compelled to pay extra duty, those transported in native craft should also be levied on in the same way. Nothing definite was arrived at.

Kansu Province is in greater anarchy than is generally known or believed, writes an occasional correspondent to the *P. & T. Times*. The ruffians that disgraced the name of soldiers under Tung Fuhsiang are obeying the orders to disband in the method and in the time that best suit themselves. Of Tung himself different accounts come to hand. One set maintain that he has seized a big town not far from Si-ning, if it be not that town itself, and is turning out small arms and ammunition in abundance from two arsenals there established. The natives even say that he is now making big ordnance. The Court is said to be cognisant of this, but does not see its way to cope with the situation with the materials at its disposal: it even entertains some hopes of foreign aid. On the other hand commercial men, who are usually well informed, state that Tung has entered a monastery, that he has shaved his head, and has given up all the ambitions of life.

The British residents at Shanghai met on Thursday last to arrange about the due celebration of King Edward's Coronation. It was proposed to extend the celebration over three days—the Coronation day, Thursday, 26th June, to be a whole holiday; on the two following days, Friday and Saturday, the celebration to commence after 4 p.m. The proposed programme comprises:—On Thursday, 26th June, Service in the Cathedral; Royal Salute by the men-of-war and S.V. Artillery, subject to the approval of the Naval authorities; luncheon in the Town Hall; Garden Party, with, possibly a Bicycle Gymkhana; Illumination of the Bund and Shipping and torchlight procession. On Friday, 27th June, Review of the British Naval and Military Forces and S.V.C. on the Racecourse; Gala Performance in the Lyceum Theatre. On Saturday, 28th June, Children's Fête and Sports on the Racecourse; dinner to Non-commissioned Officers and men of H.M.'s Navy and Army in the Town Hall; repetition performance in the Lyceum Theatre. The subscription is limited to Tls. 10, though people, unable to pay so much, can contribute less.

The health authorities are taking no half measures in their attempts to stamp out the cholera in the Philippines. Farola Barrio, "the filthiest blot in all Manila and the breeding-place of many a case of cholera" has been given to the flames, the inhabitants of the village having previously been taken to detention camps at San Lazaro and a strong force of police kept on guard to prevent robbery, previous to the general appraising of property, for which the city government has very generously provided compensation. The number of cases shows no very alarming increase on those previously reported—there being a total of 127 cases and 105 deaths—yet the Board of Health are taking a very serious view of the situation, on account of the discovery having been made that the natives and Chinese are resorting to all sorts of expedients to hide a case among them and to baffle the inspectors. It appears that if they have a case in the house they hustle it out, and remove all signs of any sickness before the inspector comes, and there are signs to show that they—especially the Chinese—carry away and bury the bodies of those dead of cholera, under cover of the darkness of night. They are stated to be making preparations to place as many as 1,000 white inspectors in the city, if necessary, and also to ask the military authorities to cooperate by forming a closer cordon round the city, composed of American troops, as it is feared that under cover of night many of those to whom passes are refused will endeavour to leave the city.

The King has been pleased to approve for M. Minoji Arakawa as Consul-General of Japan at London.

The Tientsin Races are fixed for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of May, with an off-day on the following Saturday if there be sufficient support.

Tobacco of excellent quality, says Mr. F. E. Taylor in his report on China's trade last year, is produced in China, and at one time it looked as though this was a promising trade, 371,137 piculs having been exported in 1898; but fraudulent packing has spoiled these prospects and the export has fallen off, although the export of 158,383 piculs was an improvement on the figures for the previous year.

The *L. & C. Express* has the following well-deserved tribute to the Captain of H.M.S. *Aurora*:—Tientsin has a specially warm corner for Captain Bayly, R.N., of the *Aurora*, now with his ship homeward bound. His methods at times were, perhaps, somewhat rough and ready, as all who witnessed his interview with the Chinese director of the railway at Tientsin station in the early days of June will bear witness to; but he was full of bull-dog pluck and resourcefulness, and but for these characteristics Tientsin might have been evacuated, when it is certain the horrors of 1900 would have been greatly added to. We share in the regret felt in Tientsin that he has received much less recognition than others who certainly had less onerous tasks to carry out.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 29th March:—Re-reels.—No settlements are reported. Filatures.—Under the influence of falling Exchange, a very fair business has been done during the fortnight under review, about 1,800 bales having been bought for Europe, mostly in fine and medium sizes. Dollar prices have inclined towards weakness, but are more or less stationary at the close. Short-reels.—The market has ruled quiet throughout the fortnight. Latterly, considerable concessions have been obtainable, which have induced some revival of demand. Waste.—Business in Steam Waste continues very difficult, owing to the difference between buyers and sellers, and the comparative smallness of stock on offer. Prices show much irregularity and are quoted very firm in the country, while some local holders on the other hand are inclined to make concessions.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—The prices are declining, market being weak. Quotations are:—
Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.20 to \$9.25 pcl.
do. " 2, White..... 7.25 to 7.30 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 5.95 to 6.00 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.80 to 5.85 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 7.10 to 7.15 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 7.25 to 7.30 pcl.
do. " 1, Brown ... 5.85 to 5.90 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.65 to 5.70 "
Foodchow Sugar Candy.....12.85 to 12.90 "
Shekloong " 9.85 to 9.90 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.65 to 2.70
" Round, Good quality 3.75 to 3.80
" Long 4.10 to 4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 2.80 to 2.85
" Garden, " No. 1 3.25 to 3.30
" White..... 3.85 to 3.90
" Fine Cargo 4.15 to 4.20

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—Malwa.—The demand for old drug continued. All the available good drug was taken up by dealers: New at \$890 and Old at \$950/80.

Bengal.—Market continued quiet and prices receded to \$897 for High numbers and \$890 for Low numbers Patna and \$890 for Benares. Subsequently on account of the further drop in exchange, importers firmed up and prices recovered as follows:—

New Patna High Nos. at \$902
" " Low " " 895
" Benares " " 895

Market however closes quiet.

Persian.—The Japanese Government have made further purchases at \$575/600.

Stock.

Patna..... 3,196½
Benares 643
Malwa 445
Persian 3,321½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—A slightly better feeling prevails.

Bombay, 20.00 to 22.00 piculs
Bengal (Now), Rangoon, { 22.00 to 23.50 "
and Dacca, }
Shanghai and Japanese, 28.00 to 29.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, 28.00 to 29.00 "
Sale: 600 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 11th April:—Despite the prevalence of the annual Grave Worshipping holidays, a brisk fortnight has been experienced and business has been varied and extensive at advancing prices, close upon 9,000 bales changing hands; the chief feature being the revival in the demand for No. 10s, which shows an appreciation of \$1 to \$2 per bale. Shanghai is still in large evidence and all desirable tickets of No. 16s and 20s continue to be taken up at an improvement of \$1 and \$3 respectively. No. 12s are steady at quotations and in special instances may be called 50 cents to a dollar higher.

Stocks continue to fall off and its present position appears to be giving dealers some concern, as beyond their late contract goods very little is coming forward for sale, and they must shortly find it necessary to place further orders.

Local Manufacture:—The local Mill continues very firm and their daily output meets with a ready sale. Demand for forward delivery is keen and sales of over 1,200 bales June-July delivery have transpired at \$92 to \$94 for No. 10s, and \$96 for No. 12s, prices showing an advance of \$2 per bale.

It may interest the Bombay spinners to learn that since the issue of its last gloomy report, the Mills have been doing so well that the local Agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., are able to announce an interim dividend of 4 per cent., payable on the 17th instant.

Japanese Spinnings:—Nothing doing.

Raw Cotton:—The market for Indian descriptions has continued steady during the interval, especially for superfine machine ginned Bengal, owing to firmer markets from the other side, but for the ordinary run of stuff prices may be called 50 cents weaker. Exports to Japan have dwindled to about 500 bales. Sales during the interval aggregate close upon 1,300 bales at from \$19 to \$23, leaving an estimated unsold stock of about 9,000 bales on the market. There is nothing doing in Chinese Cotton. Quotations are Indian \$17 to \$24, and China \$27 to \$29.

Exchange on India has declined and closes weak to-day at Rs. 132 for T/T and 132½ for Post. On Shanghai 73½ and on Yokohama 15½ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the week ended 29th ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—Market firm at steady unchanged prices. Total sales 2,530 bales, including 1,367 No. 10s, 300 bales No. 12s, 650 bales No. 16s, and 213 bales No. 20s. Estimated unsold stock about 25,000.

Japanese:—In less enquiry at previous prices. Total sales about, 700 bales on the basis of Tls. 85½ to \$91½ for No. 16s and Tls. 89 to 93 for No. 20s, market closing steady.

Local:—No enquiry from first hands; market unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 1,600 bales No. 10 at \$87 to \$95, 1,000 bales No. 12 at \$92.50 to \$98, 450 bales No. 16 at \$96.50 to \$110, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$108 to \$120. White Shirtings: 500 pieces No. 1,000 at \$2.70, 500 pieces x 6 at \$4.80, 500 pieces No. 1,000 at \$2.67, 500 pieces Blue Ship 575 at \$5.10, 500 pieces Green Goss at \$3.30, 1,000 pieces Elephant and Tree at \$6.42, Drills: 500 pieces Peacock at \$4.70.

per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$80.00 to \$121.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs. 2.25 to 2.50
8.4 lbs. 3.00 to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs. 3.75 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.45 to 2.75
58 to 60 " 3.20 to 4.20
64 to 66 " 4.30 to 5.10
Fine 5.30 to 7.50
Book-folds 4.35 to 6.75

Victoria Lawns—12 yards..... 0.75 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.75 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.05 to 2.35
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 2.10 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.85 to 3.40
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.10 to 3.60
Drills, English—40yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. 4.10 to 6.85

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs. 1.80 to 3.65

BROCADES—

Dyed — to —
per yard
Chintzes—Assorted 0.08 to 0.20
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.24 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in. 0.22 to 0.30

per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.80 to 3.00

WOOLLENS—

per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.65 to 2.00
German 1.25 to 3.00
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 3.00

per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 6.50 to 8.50
Assorted 6.60 to 8.65
Camlets—Assorted 12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 12.00 to 16.00
Assorted }

per pair
Orleans—Plain 8.00 to 9.50

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 4.00 to 9.00

METALS—

per picul
Iron—Nail Rod 4.60 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng. 4.60 to —
Swedish Bar 4.85 to —
Small Round Rod 4.90 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 6.00 to —
Wire, 16/25, 8.20 to —
Old Wire Rope 2.40 to —
Pig Non 35.50 to 36.50
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 8.50 to —
Australian 8.40 to —

per picul
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Composition Nails 61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs 39.00 to —
Tin 74.00 to —

per box.
Tin-Plates 8.30 to —

per cwt. case
Steel ½ to 1 5.90 to —

SUNDRIES—
per picul
Quicksilver 174.50 to —

per box.
Window Glass 6.00 to —

per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil 2.10 to —

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—There has been a better demand for tonnage during the past fortnight and freights have slightly improved. From Saigon to Hongkong, tonnage is wanted at 13 to 14 cents per picul; to the Philippines, small carriers of 20,000 piculs command 29 cents for 30,000 piculs 27 cents; to Java, the rate is nominally 24 cents per picul. Bangkok to Hongkong, there is no demand outside the regular liners. From Newchwang to Canton, no fixtures are reported, the rate being weak, at 25 cents; to Amoy and Swatow, 23 cents and 25 cents per picul respectively has been accepted. Coal freights are firm from Japan to Hongkong, at \$1.85 per ton and to Singapore, \$2.80 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Lochrool—British barque, 1,367 tons, Hongkong to Baltimore, private terms.

Kriemhild—German barque, 807 tons, hence to Callao, \$1,300 in full.

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.

Taemis—Norwegian steamer, 1,208 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 25 cents per picul.

Lena—Norwegian steamer, Newchwang to Amoy (20,000 piculs), 23 cents per picul.

Hopsang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Hongay to Shanghai, \$3 25 per ton.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Pakshan—British steamer, 1,235 tons, Saigon to Foochow, 25 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 24 cents per picul.

Jacob Diedericksen—German steamer, 623 tons, Saigon to Philippines, 25 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.

Piccola—German steamer, 575 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 26 cents per picul.

Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 25 cents per picul.

Hansu—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (33,000 piculs), 25 cents per picul.

Bjorn—Norwegian steamer, 724 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.

Paz—Belgian steamer, 1,092 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 23 cents per picul.

Dr. Hans Jurg Kiaer—Norwegian steamer, 691 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 29 cents per picul; two ports, 32 cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Gloucester City—British steamer, 1,409 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,050 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13½ cents per picul.

Tai'u—German steamer, 1,065 tons, hence to Mauritius and back, \$8.40 per month.

Madeleine Rickmers—German steamer, 1,020 tons, monthly, about 4½ months, at \$7,100 per month (re-charter).

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—Business generally has ruled somewhat dull throughout the past week, and with the exception of an improvement in Hotels and Lands, rates in many instances again show a falling off.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been done in small lots at \$597½ and \$595, closing with sellers at the lower rate. London has declined to £6½. Nationals can still be placed at \$26.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been purchased at \$385. China Traders continue on offer at \$53. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 190. Canton Insurances have changed ownership at \$162½ and are wanted.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have been purchased at \$345 and \$340, and more shares are obtainable at the lower rate. Chinas are offering at \$82 after sales at that figure.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sold at \$38, and continue steady. Indo-Chinas have receded to \$134, at which sales are reported, and further sellers. China and Manilas have fallen off to \$35 with some sales reported and small buyers at the rate. Star Ferries are weak at \$24 (old) and \$8½ (new). Shell Transports continue on offer at £2.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have found buyers at \$124, \$123 and \$122 and more shares could probably be obtained at the latter rate. Luzons unaltered at \$30 sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms are obtainable at \$4½. Charbonnages are firm with buyers at \$550. Jebebus have declined to \$3 sellers. Raubs are now obtainable at \$9½ after sales at that figure.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued more or less neglected, and some shares are now to be had at \$255. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold and are steady at \$90. New Amoy Docks have improved to \$34 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have again come into favour, and are in strong request at \$176. Kowloon Lands are on offer at \$30. Hongkong Hotels have sold at \$136 to \$138 and are in further request. Humphreys Estates can be placed in small lots at \$124.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have sold at \$14½ and \$15, and can now be placed at \$16. The Northern stocks are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold at \$22 and are wanted. A. S. Watsons have been done at \$15 and \$14½. Electrics have improved to \$13½ (old) and \$6½ (new), at which shares are wanted. Fenwicks have

changed hands at \$41. Ices are wanted at the improved rate of \$227½. China Providents have jumped to \$9½ buyers. Watkins can be disposed of at \$6½.

MEMO.—Green Island Cement Co., Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 14th instant. Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks —		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	{ \$595, sellers £100, £61.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$26, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$26, buyers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$28½, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20, nominal
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$122.
Cigar Companies —		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Cotton Mills —		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 25.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$16, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$41, sales
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6½, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$330, buyers
Hk. Steam Water	\$5	\$8, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$138, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$227½, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$90, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$255, sellers
Insurance —		
Canton	\$50	\$162½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$82, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$53, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$340, sales
North China	\$25	Tls. 190, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$385, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$135.
Land and Building —		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$176, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$124.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$58, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$30, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$35, sellers
Mining —		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$550, sales & buyers
Jebebu	\$5	\$3, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	4 cents.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4½	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$4½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$125, sellers
Raubs	18	\$9½, sales
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$34, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$50, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$55.
Steamship Coys. —		
China and Manila	\$50	\$35, buyers
China Mutual Pref.	\$5	nominal.
Do. Ordinary	£10	£10.1½, ex div., b.
Do. Bonus	£5	£5, ex div., sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$43, buyers
Do. Canton and M.	\$15	\$38.
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$134, sellers
Shel Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£2, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$24, sellers \$8½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$10, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$250, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$20, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$6½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, sellers

VERNON SMYTH, & Brokers.

Shanghai, 2nd March (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). The Easter Holidays have checked business. **MARINE INSURANCE**.—Fire Insurance. There is no business to report. **SHIPPING**.—Indo-China S. N. shares were sold locally at Tls. 101. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares are wanted at £10. 10s. Shell Transport shares changed hands at £2. 5s. **MINING**.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares were placed at Tls. 9.35. **DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS**.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. Business was done at Tls. 257.50/260 cash, 262.50 for April, 272.50 for July, and 275 for August. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. shares were sold at Tls. 272.50/270. **LANDS**.—Waihaiwei Land and Building Co., Ltd. The report and accounts for 1901 were passed at the meeting of shareholders held on the 26th March. There was a loss of Tls. 2,453.17, which was added to the previous debit balance of Tls. 4,496.08, increasing it to Tls. 6,949.27. Shares are offering. **INDUSTRIAL**.—China Flour Mill shares were sold at Tls. 44, and Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares at Tls. 106. **MISCELLANEOUS**.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 45 cash, 46.50 for April and 47 for July. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco Co., Ltd. The report and accounts to the 31st December last were presented and passed at the ordinary general meeting of shareholders held on the 27th March. The charges included an item of Tls. 121.296 for interest and exchange, which is not likely to recur, covering, as it did, a term of years. Allowing for this and other charges, the net profits for the year were Tls. 217,912.04, which is equal to 18.20 per cent. on the nominal capital. Adding the premium on the new issue of shares, Tls. 197,000, and deducting the debit balance of Tls. 65,752.59 brought forward, the balance at credit of Profit and Loss is Tls. 349,159.45. An extraordinary general meeting was then held, at which a resolution was passed placing the Company in Liquidation, and Liquidators were appointed, who were empowered to transfer all the assets and liabilities of the Company to a Dutch Company called the Maatschappij Tot Mijn Bosch en Landbouw Exploitatie in Langkat, Ltd.; and every member of the old Company will receive in exchange for each share held, two shares in the new Company, of 100 guilders each. An extraordinary general meeting, to confirm this is convened for the 23rd April. Shares have been sold at Tls. 305/310 cash, 315 for April, 325 for June, 330 for July, and 337.50 for August. Hall and Holtz shares changed hands at \$38. **LOANS**.—Shanghai Waterworks Company's Debentures were sold at Tls. 103.

COALS.

HONGKONG, 11th April.—The market has continued very quiet.

Cardiff.....\$18.50 to 19.00, ship, nominal

Australian \$11.00 nominal

Yubari Lump...\$12.00 to 12.50 ex godown nominal

Milki Lump.....\$10.00 ex ship, nominal

Moji Lump.....\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, quiet

Hongay double { 10.50 ex godown

screened }

Hongay Lump..... 8.50 ex ship

Hongay Dust..... 6.00 "

Briquettes.....16.00 "

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Hakata Maru (str.), Awa Maru (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Malta (str.), Dardanus (str.), Ceylon (str.), Diomed (str.), Machaon (str.), Awa Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Achilles (str.), Calchas (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Awa Maru (str.), Yarra (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Stuttgart (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Adria (str.), Sazonia (str.), Segovia (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Silesia (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Glenogle (str.), Shinano Maru (str.), Tosa Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Maristow (str.), Queensland (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indravelli (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Taiyuan (str.), Yawata Maru (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Hiroshima Maru (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Lightning (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—Bormida (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—Pekin (str.).

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 11th April.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 3/4
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/4

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.21
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.25

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.80
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	43
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	131 1/2
Bank, on demand	132 1/2

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	131 1/2
Bank, on demand	132 1/2

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	73 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	74 1/2

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	15 1/2
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	1 1/2
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1/2
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	107 1/2
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	1/2
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	1/2
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ON BANGKOK.—On demand

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	11.23
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GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

BAR SILVER per oz.	24 1/2
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SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

April—

- 5, Esang, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 6, Airlie, British str., from Kobe.
- 7, Aragonia, German str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Chunsang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 7, Gloucester City, British str., from Saigon.
- 7, Indus, French str., from Marseilles.
- 7, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Onsang, British str., from Hongay.
- 7, Progress, German str., from Tourane.
- 7, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
- 7, Victoria, Swedish str., from Saigon.
- 7, Antenor, British str., from Amoy.
- 7, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
- 8, Andromeda, British ship, from New York.
- 8, Bamberg, German str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Benlarig, British str., from London.
- 8, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Cebu.
- 8, Fausang, British str., from Canton.
- 8, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 8, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
- 8, Macduff, British str., from Singapore.
- 8, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
- 8, Saxonia, German str., from Hamburg.
- 8, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
- 8, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Zaffro, British str., from Manila.
- 9, Babelsberg, German str., from Saigon.
- 9, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 9, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 9, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 9, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 9, Hyson, British str., from London.
- 9, Independent, German str., from Manila.
- 9, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 9, M. Rickmers, German str., from Saigon.
- 9, Peresvet, Russian battleship, from Batavia.
- 9, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
- 9, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
- 10, Bjorn, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 10, Chelydra, British str., from Java.
- 10, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.

- 10, Ixion, British str., from Liverpool.
- 10, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 10, Kashing, British str., from Canton.
- 10, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
- 10, Nanyang, German str., from Manila.
- 10, P. C. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Shantung, British str., from Samarang.
- 10, Savoia, German str., from Hamburg.
- 11, Australian, British str., from Australia.
- 11, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
- 11, Malta, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Store Nordiske, Danish str., from Amoy.
- 11, Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.

April—

DEPARTURES.

- 7, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
- 7, Indus, French str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Kinshiu Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
- 7, Pekin, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Taksang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 8, Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
- 8, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 8, Lothair, British barque, for Callao.
- 8, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
- 9, Pique, British cruiser, for Shanghai.
- 9, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
- 9, Antenor, British str., for London.
- 9, Bamberg, German str., for Hamburg.
- 9, Formosa, British str., for Takao.
- 9, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 9, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
- 9, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
- 9, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 9, Taito Maru, Japanese str., for Takao.
- 9, Tsurugisan Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
- 9, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
- 10, Airlie, British str., for Australia.
- 10, Aragonia, German str., for New York.
- 10, Arnold Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
- 10, Bugeaud, French cruiser, for Japan.
- 10, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 10, D'Entrecasteaux, French cr., for Shanghai.
- 10, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
- 10, Hyson, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 10, Macduff, British str., for Japan.
- 10, Saxonia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Telemachus, British str., for Amoy.
- 10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Themis, Norwegian str., for Chinkiang.
- 10, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Decidee, French gunboat, for Amoy.
- 11, Goliath, British battleship, for Swatow.
- 11, Hansa, German str., for Saigon.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Chiyuen*, from Shanghai, Mr. Blake.
- Per *Bormida*, from Bombay, Misses Rosa Fischer and Fanny Aine.
- Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Messrs R. Hatley, J. Douglas, J. Hirada, J. Da C. Mouninho, J. L. de Otero, T. Tabulo, J. Karachy and S. Kisugi.
- Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mr. Skeines.
- Per *Formosa*, from Tamsui, &c., Mrs. Rolfe.
- Per *Anping Maru*, from Coast Ports, Mr. W.
- Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. Richard Ludtke, Jose Loza and Gabriel Fernandez; from Kobe, Mr. Loonen; from Nagasaki, Mr. Henderson; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Grevedon and child, Mr. and Mrs. Neville, Mrs. Lee, Miss Fleming, Consul Claudel, Messrs. Meyer, Kirsch, Varcollier, Demotte Mainard, Heritier, Aratoun and D. Sharho; for Saigon, from Nagasaki, Capt. Dunet, Messrs. Leriche, Manach, Dellavasa, Barbey, Gros-maitre, Floch, Bannaire, Lazon, Ferlicot, Dorango, Penot and Lavanant; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mrs. Marie Paw and child, Mrs. Maine, Messrs. F. W. Newson, Catani Albert, S. Nicolas, and Dodero Alexandro; for Colombo, from Nagasaki, Mr. Alexander Newman; from Shanghai, Mr. Carte Karamiles; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Egly, Robert, Gondareau, Gengiro Inouye and Kellian; from Shanghai, Mrs. Zurn and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and daughter, Messrs. Forest, G. S. Cowie, Dougruet Louis, Gilonne Louis, Zimmer, Kahn, W. H. Campbell, W. W. Jones, von Goes, L. Berthon, Lallemant, Callier, Esconde, Barbe, Satini, Mariani, Pape, Clement, Fortin, Carre, Jurry and Varoqueaux.
- Per *Airlie*, from Kobe, Messrs. Raphael and Ireland.

Per *Indus*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Messrs. Tardy and Valle; from Saigon, Messrs. Brilly, Barquet, Jonely, Fraipout, A. Benaud and Nizien; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mrs. Arlabosse and three children, Mrs. Liebert, Mr. and Mrs. Dumoulin, Mrs. Liebert, Rev. Garnier, Messrs. P. Nolet, Ghilain, Evrard, Fano, Cluter, P. Louveau, Barbey and Moulin; from Colombo, Misses Faucault and Brail, Messrs. Postinkoff, Isgaricheff, Benoist, P. Menghetti and Cognac; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Kazoubowsky, Mr. and Mrs. Renion; from Colombo, Mr. Shinia Lingheam; from Singapore, Mrs. Ohiche, Mrs. Oshima and Miss Sato Amaty; for Yokohama, Messrs. Fauveau and Eglin; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Keller, Mr. and Mrs. Ribeiro and child, Mr. and Mrs. Daron, Messrs. G. Chalmers, Shibuya, Matsuda and Yamanoka.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Schanmfel.

Per *Zaffro*, from Manila, Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. G. Gutierrez, Capt. Harford, Miss Constancia Arrayo and two children, Miss C. Delos Reyes, Messrs. Isabella and Louis D. L. Reyes, Eduardo, Barousky and Isaac Adams.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from London, &c., Mrs. F. Oshea, Miss G. and Master D. Oshea, Mr. J. and Miss Longstaff, Messrs. H. W. Looker, H. Gully, A. Seth, Chester Haworth, Nakagi, F. Bonall, D. Allan, H. Pudimore, D. Handly, C. Noice and Miss B. McCoy.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. Rose, Capt. and Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Michael Sarkies, Lieut. Watson, Miss Averborm, Messrs. John, Webster and Eppenstein.

Per *American Mail*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. and Miss Christenson, Mrs. Winn, Mrs. G. F. Holticlaw, Miss Berlin Holticlaw and Mr. Graham Holticlaw, Miss Carmon, Lt. Boots, U.S.M.C., Rev. J. H. Cooper, Messrs. Charles Freeman, Stewart Rhodes, U.S.N., Sam. Marx, S. S. Homes, R. Miller, H. Reeves, M. C. McDonald, U.S.N., A. L. Young and Leon Schwartz.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mrs. Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. W. Ross, Mrs. Irime, Mr. and Master Bosa, Messrs. E. P. Hudson, W. F. Whitemove, S. A. Campbell, L. H. Bonelli, P. Gillman, E. T. Curran, M. G. Baily, F. S. Cairris and Chas. Wall.

Per *Ixion*, from Liverpool, &c., Messrs. Symonds and Graham.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Hongkong, for Sydney, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tattenham, Mr. and Mrs. Fujii, Mrs. Stockwell, Misses Katherine Newbery, Thyne and Arthur (2), Rev. B. F. Cobbold, Messrs. D. Parr, A. Haskin, Fail, Thornhill, Peel, Turton, J. C. Gerard and J. Fisher and Master Stockwell.

Per *Kinshiu Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. Matsudaira, Rev. A. E. Street, Prof. J. Hatmer, Messrs. Jno. A. Hawkins, I. Arima and Arima, jr.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Mrs. G. de Jesus, Misses R. and A. de Jesus, and Mr. J. Leno; for Singapore, Rev. Ruondel and Mr. Chater; for Colombo, Lieut. D. M. de Amaral; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. G. Fort and son, Mrs. Giron, Rt. Rev. Chatagnon, Rev. Aubazao, Capt. Trupit, Messrs Geo. Bowach, Cazeau, L. Saloun, H. M. Foillard, Meernier, A. d'Oliveira, J. Augusto, J. Ribeiro and A. Buss.

Per *Indus*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. H. A. Brauacom, Mrs. Hanisch, Mrs. Romsom, Colonel Bertie, Messrs. Lecat-Cartier, S. W. Cartwright, D. Soutar, M. Feller, J. Judah, A. Mason, K. Kawata, H. Kennel, A. Kontos and Capt. Gadel; for Kobe, Mrs. Watts, Misses Clothier and P. Clothier, Messrs. Clothier, Loonen and Schmidt; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. L. Hirsch, Rev. T. M. Burke, and Mr. Maitre.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, for Japan, Mrs. D. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Neville, Rev. and Mrs. J. Batchelor, Mr. and Mrs. R. Miller, Mrs. Inouye, Mrs. Toyo, Messrs. Wallace, A. P. Eppenstein, R. H. Dawson, Strenimell, Lee R. Alford, K. Hirata, H. Koyama and G. Sakata.

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